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DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

RELATING TO

TOWNS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE;

WITH AN APPENDIX

EMBRACING THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS OF 1778-
1779; AND OF 1780-1783; AND THE STATE
CONSTITUTION OF 1784.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

V. I. I. I.

VOLUME IX.

COMPILED AND EDITED BY

NATHANIEL BOUTON, D. D.,

Corresponding Secretary of the New Hampshire Historical Society.

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NOTICE.

JOINT RESOLUTION, passed by the Legislature of New Hampshire.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court convened. That His Excellency the Governor be hereby authorized and empowered, with the advice and consent of the Council, to employ some suitable person, and fix his compensation, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to collect, arrange, transcribe, and superintend the publication of such portions of the early State and Provincial Records, and other State Papers of New Hampshire, as the Governor may deem proper; and that eight hundred copies of each volume of the same be printed by the State Printer and distributed as follows: namely, one copy to each City and Town in the State, one copy to such of the Public Libraries of this State as the Governor may designate, two hundred copies to the New Hampshire Historical Society, and the remainder placed in the custody of the State Librarian, who is hereby authorized to exchange the same for similar publications issued by other States.

Approved July 6, 1866.

EDITOR'S PREFACE.

The special value of this volume consists in the information which it contains and communicates, relating to Towns in New Hampshire. It will be found indispensable in every Town History. We are little aware, at this period, of the sacrifices, trials, dangers and absolute sufferings which many of the early settlers endured in planting Towns in the interior of the State: where, literally, they often suffered "from savage beasts and more savage men." The border Towns were, for years, open to the incursions of Indians from Canada. Their earnest petitions to the Governor or to the General Assembly for help, clearly reveal to us their dangers and distresses. Besides this source of trial, others arose from disputes about boundary lines, the location of meeting-houses, the settling of ministers, irregularities in town meetings, &c. The volume is of great value, as giving the NAMES of many, and in some cases, all the male inhabitants of the Towns, from which petitions were sent. These will enable descendants to trace their connexion with the early settlers.

The volume, also, has an important value, in that, in the APPENDIX, it gives in full, all known facts relating to the Constitutional Conventions in 1778-1783, which resulted in the establishment of the first Constitution after the Revolution, 1784. The Editor is not aware that the facts herein have ever before been published, in connexion. He asks attention to the Note subjoined to the first and second articles of the Bill of Rights, on pages 896-898.

In examining these "Town Papers," readers will often do well to refer to the Provincial and State Papers in preceding volumes, of corresponding date, from which, in some cases, additional information will be obtained.

GENERAL CONTENTS.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

The contents of the several MS. Volumes from which the following printed pages are transcribed, are noted and kept distinct herein as in the original. Thus:

VOLUME I.

ACWORTH TO CHICHESTER, pp. 1-127.

ACWORTH.

	PAGES.
Memorial of Sampson Stoddard and Jona. Blanchard	1-2
Petition of Jona. Blanchard for extension of the charter of Acworth. 1772	2
Gov. Wentworth's warrant to inspect the settlement in Acworth, May, 1772	3
List of families and settlers in Acworth, according to report of inspectors	4

ALSTEAD.

A true list of the inhabitants settled in Alstead. 1771— names	5
Petition in relation to an extension of the charter .	5-6

AMHERST.

Request of the inhabitants of Souhegan West for a guard to defend them from the French and Indians, 1744	6
--	---

	PAGES.
Memorial of Rev. Daniel Wilkins for like aid, 1744	7
Petition for protection against the Indians, 1747—signers' names (1)	8
Petition for aid from inhabitants of Monson (afterwards incorporated, in part, with Amherst)—names, 1747	9
Petition of Monson for annexation of a tract of land to them—names, 1754	10
Petition of Monson to be exempt from taxes, 1753	11
Petition of certain persons for annexation to Monson—names	12
Petition of selectmen of Amherst for extension of its charter, 1761	
Petition for pay for taking inventory of Lyndeborough, 1762	13
Proposals of accommodation between Monson and Amherst, 1763	14
Letter of Rev. Daniel Wilkins, relating to Amherst for a shire-town, 1767	14; 15
Vote of Monson for a division and annexation to Amherst and to Hollis, and Petition for the aforesaid division	16
Petition to be disannexed from Amherst, 1771—names	17
Petition against division of the town, 1771—names	17-19
Vote of Amherst in favor of annexing Monson, 1766	20
Petition of John Shepard, jun., town clerk, in behalf of Amherst, 1771	20
Petition for a road from Charlestown to Amherst, 1773	21
Petition of inhabitants of Hillsborough county in relation to John Holland, 1774	21-24
Petition of Monson to be restored to its original charter—names, 1782	24-26

(1) Readers are reminded that names of persons in the same town, which are frequently repeated, as signers of petitions or otherwise, are not uniformly noted by page in the Index; but are indicated by a mark between the pages where they are found; but every name in a particular town will be found in the Index once or more. *Ed.*

ATKINSON AND PLAISTOW (1).

	PAGES
Petition from Plaistow, relating to difficulty of attending public worship, 1766—names	26, 27
Petition relating to a site for a meeting-house—names, 1764	28
Petition to be set off as a parish—names, 1766	29
Reasons of Daniel Hadley and Joshua Emery against a division	30
Memorial of inhabitants of Haverhill to the people of Plaistow, 1767—names	31
Information from Plaistow, to the Governor, &c., 1766—names	32
Joseph Page, Eben ^r Eaton and Joseph Parker, against a division, 1767	32, 33
Petition of inhabitants of Plaistow, with reasons for being set off in a distinct parish—names	33-35
Petition of sundry persons to be polled off from Atkinson to Plaistow—names	36
Memorial of inhabitants of Plaistow against a new town, &c.—names	37
Report of a committee of Plaistow, about the meeting-house, 1766	38
Persons in Plaistow who desire to have the town remain undivided	38, 39
Asa Haseltine against a division of the town	39
Number of people in Atkinson and in Plaistow	39
James White : reasons for wishing to remain in Plaistow	40
List of Baptists in Plaistow—names	41

BARRINGTON.

List of the original proprietors of Barrington	41-45
Petition for power to raise money	45, 46
of Thomas Shepard	46
of John McMath and Thos. Shepard	47
of selectmen of Barrington, for a representative	48

(1) The papers relating to these towns are intermixed. Ed.

	PAGES.
Petition of Garland and Brewster for a Congregational Parish	48, 49

BEDFORD.

Petition of people in Souhegan-East for protection— names of families, 1744	50
Petition of Presbyterians in Bedford, 1750—names	51, 52
Petition of people in Bedford, for a Proprietors' meeting	52
Petition for a tax on their land, for a meeting-house, &c.	53
Petition of James Caldwell, for a town meeting, &c.	54
Petition of Selectmen and Committee of Safety, against John Houston's taking an oath, 1778	55, 56

BENNINGTON.

Mr. Samuel Robinson's petition for a tax, 1763	56, 57
--	--------

BOSCAWEN.

Petition of Contoocook, Penacook and Canterbury for protection against the Indians, 1747	57
Contoocook petition for aid, 1744—names	58, 59
Petition for appointment of military officers—names	59
for a land tax for support of a minister, 1747'	60
for authority to collect taxes	60, 61
for a Justice of the Peace, 1766—names	62

BOW (1).

Bow remonstrance against Rumford petition for incorporation, 1749-50	62
Perambulation of Bow town lines	63
Petition of Selectmen of Bow, 1753	63, 64
Warrants relating to taxes, &c., 1753	65, 66

(1) By error, the head-line on pp. 63-76 is "Boscawen," which should be Bow. ED.

	PAGES.
Petition of agents of Bow for a loan of money, 1754	67
Vote for a loan to Proprietors of Bow	68
An act relating to Bow, taxes, &c., 1755	68-70
Petition for a new survey of lots	71, 72
Inventory of Bow and Canterbury, 1761	73, 74
Petition of Edward Russel and others, 1764	74, 75
Petition of Joseph Baker and Philip Eastman, 1764	75
Petition of Selectmen of Bow, not to be rated with Concord, 1767	76

BRENTWOOD.

Names of persons in Brentwood desiring a Parish, 1743	76, 77
Petition of inhabitants in the North part of Brentwood about a meeting-house, 1743—names	77-79
Petition of Elisha Sanborn, in relation to Brentwood, 1745	80
Remonstrance against Keeneborough patent	80-83
Charter of Keeneborough	83, 86
Petition of Selectmen of Keeneborough, 1748	84, 85
Petition of inhabitants of Brentwood, to be set off as a Parish, 1764—names	85, 86

CANTERBURY.

Vote of town meeting, 1738	86
Petition of proprietors of Canterbury, about a road, 1741	87
of proprietors of Canterbury for a bridge, 1743	88, 89
of Canterbury men for wages, 1754	90
of Canterbury for remission of tax, 1754	91
of Selectmen for remission of taxes, 1756	92
relating to the original charter	92, 93
Petition of Archelaus Moor and others to be set off to Canterbury, 1764	94
Petition of Abiel Foster about Town Records, 1774	95

CHARLESTOWN, No. 4.

Letter to Cols. Willard and Hinsdale, 1743—names	96, 97
Petition of John Spafford, &c., for aid, 1744	97

	PAGES.
Petition of Selectmen for a road, 1763	98
of Timothy Lovell about an island, 1770	99
of Benjamin Page for a Ferry, 1771	
Petition of John Nott, and of Simeon Alcott for a Ferry, 1771	100, 101

CHESTER.

Petition in behalf of the Proprietors of Chester, 1726, with Minutes of Council thereon	101, 102
Petition of Selectmen, relating to town bounds, 1726	103
Report on petition for a road, &c., 1743	103, 104
Petition of Chester in relation to salary of ministers, &c., 1740	105
Petition for aid of soldiers	106
Petition of John Talford and Tho ^s Wells, for protec- tion, 1748	107
Minutes of Chester Town meeting, 1753	107
Petition of Andrew Craige, in relation to taxes, 1757	108
Advertisement of town meeting, &c., 1763	109
Petition of North Parish, to be set off, &c., 1763— names	110
Petition for a new Parish, 1763—names	111, 112
Petition to confirm bounds of Long Meadow Par- ish, 1771	113
Meeting of freeholders and inhabitants—names	114
Memorandum of agreement, 1772	115
Answer to a petition for a Parish being set off, 1772	116
Bounds of Long Meadow Parish, 1772	117
Further petitions, relating to the same, 1773—names	117-120
Petition of Daniel Foster for a Ferry	120

CHESTERFIELD.

Memorial relating to the estate of John Wheelwright, of Boston	120, 121
Petition of Josiah Willard about the same	122

CHESWICK, now LITTLETON.

PAGES.

Petition of Moses Little and associates for extension of charter	123
---	-----

CHICHESTER.

Charter of Chichester	123
Petition for extension thereof—names	125
confirmation of charter	126
liberty to assess taxes	126, 127
Note by the Editor. "Coulernain"	127

VOLUME II.

CONCORD TO ENETER. pp. 128-274.

CONCORD.

Petition from Ebenezer Eastman for protection from the Indians. 1746	128
Copy of Rumford petition for defence, &c.. 1744	129
Petition for aid by Benj. Rolfe, Esq.. 1745	130, 131
Petition of inhabitants for like purpose, 1747—names	131
Petition of Capt. Ebenezer Eastman for same	133
Petition of Joseph Pudney, for service	133
Letter of Rev. Timothy Walker to Archibald Stark	134
Petition of Ezra Carter in behalf of Rumford	134, 135
Letter of Jere. Stickney, Esq., relating to Bow	135, 136
Petition of Rev. Tim ^o Walker in behalf of Rumford	136, 137
of Selectmen, relating to taxation, &c.	138
to be annexed to Hillsborough county	139

CONWAY.

List of original Proprietors of Conway—names, &c.	141, 143
List of settlers that have families, &c.	144
Memorial from Fryburg, Brownfield and Conway, 1776	144, 145

CORNISH.

	PAGES.
Petition of Jon ^s Chase for a grant of Hart Island,	
1772	145, 146

DEERFIELD.

Petition of inhabitants in relation to a tax—names	147
for a tax, with reasons therefor. 1773	147, 148
Petition for appointment of a Justice of the Peace.	
1774—names	149
Petition of southerly part of Deerfield for a Parish,	
1774—names	150

DERRYFIELD

Note	151
Petition of inhabitants relating to town meeting.	
1766—names	152, 153

DOVER.

Extracts from the Records of Dover, 1643	153, 154
Petition for bridging Cochecho and Lamprey rivers	154
Letter to the selectmen of Dover and Exeter about a bridge: Accts. of pretenders to land at Cochecho Point	155
Petition about a Grammar School at Dover (1)	155, 156
of Selectmen. relating to a bridge. 1723	156
Petition and complaint against Richard Waldron. Esq.	157, 158
Petition of inhabitants of the N. E. part of Dover for a Parish. 1729—names	159, 160
Petition of Eleazer Weare in behalf of inhabitants in N. E. part of Dover, 1729	160
Petition of Paul Gerrish and others relating to frauds and forgeries. 1729—names	161, 162

	PAGES.
Action of General Assembly, and Report of Committee thereon. 1729	162, 163
Report about frauds in Dover Town book, 1731	163-167
Petition of Proprietors of Hilton's Point, 1731— names	167, 168
Petition of people in Dover and other towns for a Township. 1733—names	168-171
Petition for a grant of land. 1754—names	171, 172
List of the training men under Capt. Tho' Millet, 1740	173, 174
List of the second foot company of Dover. 1740	174, 175
List of the troopers under Capt. Tristram Coffin, in Dover. 1740	176
Petition against a new Parish. 1744—names	176, 177
for leave to have a Lottery, for a bridge. 1760	177
Petition for a bridge to cross Beliamy's Bank. 1756 —names	178, 179
Petition in relation to being set off in a separate county. 1768	180
Petition relating to a bridge. 1770—names	181, 183
Petition relating to bridges, 1773—names	184, 185
Petition relating to rocks in Salmon-falls river. 1779. names	185-187

DORCHESTER.

Petition of John House for extension of time to make their settlement. 1771	187
Petition for a new charter. 1772	188

DUBLIN.

Petition to be incorporated into a township. 1771	188
---	-----

DUNBARTON.

Petition of Capt. Caleb Page, of Starkstown, 1763	189
Petition in relation to a school lot. 1774, with resolve of General Assembly	190, 191
Petition of Caleb Page relating thereunto. 1774	191-193

DUNSTABLE.

	PAGES.
Petition of Inhabitants of Pine Hill, 1763 . . .	193
Votes at a town meeting in Dunstable, 1763 . . .	194
Petition of inhabitants of West Parish of Dunstable for a garrison and men, 1744—names . . .	194
Petition for protection against the Indians, 1744 . . .	195
in relation to a certain tract of land . . .	196
Copy of an Indian Deed, 1671	196, 197
Petition relating to conflicting town meetings, 1748 . . .	198-200
Petition for dividing the Province into Counties, 1754 —names	201
Warning for a town meeting, proceedings, &c., 1760	203
Samuel Hobart, attorney for Dunstable, 1763 . . .	203
Answer to a petition of inhabitants of Dunstable to be set off to Hollis, 1763	204-206
Petition of Zacheus Lovewell and Joseph Blanch- ard, 1758 (1)	206
(1) By error, 1768. Ed.	
Petition of Joseph Blanchard, 1762	207
Wm. Brown's letter and power of attorney, 1760 . . .	208
Proceedings at Town meetings	208-210
Letter to Hon. Henry Sherburne	210
Papers relating to the settlement of Rev. SAMUEL BIRD	211
List of qualified voters in Dunstable	211
Names of persons who voted for Rev. Mr. Bird . . .	213
Names of those who voted against him, &c.	213-214
Votes at Town meetings, &c.	215
Petition relating to an illegal Town meeting . . .	216
Sundry names, in Dunstable	219
Minutes of Town meeting	219-221
Assent to Jos. Blanchard's petition, and Remon- strance against it	221-222
Petition of Jon ^a Lovewell, in answer to Jos. Blanch- ard's	222
Petition to send a Representative	224
Petition of people in the west part of Dunstable to be annexed to Hollis	226, 227

	PAGES.
Petition relating to another hearing	228
Petition against annexation to Hollis	229-231
Proceedings at town meetings	231-234

DURHAM.

Petition for incorporation as a town	234
Ecclesiastical document, 1723	235
Petition of aggrieved inhabitants of Oyster River .	237
Petition of Francis Mathes and others for a new Parish	238
Names of soldiers in Durham under Capt. John Smith	240
Petition of Daniel Meader, 1745	241
Petition of Joseph Thomas and others, about a fraud- ulent election	242
Petition for a highway	243

EPPING.

Petition of inhabitants for protection	245-246
--	---------

EPSOM.

An Act to invest Proprietors of Epsom with town rights	246
Petition of John Weeks	247
Petition for abating the Province tax	248
Proceedings at town meetings	249-250

EXETER.*

Combination at Exeter, 1639	250
Elders' or Rulers' Oath	251
Oath of the people	252
Request for a town meeting and a new Parish .	253
Petition for a Parish—names	253-257

* See Note by the Editor, at the close of General Contents.

	PAGES.
Counter petition—names	257
Petition for Parish privileges—names	258
Remonstrance against	260
Warrant for town meeting—other remonstrances	261-265
Report on location of a meeting-house	265
Brentwood petition about Parish lines	266
Petition of Andrew Gilman and others—names	267
Brentwood to pay Province tax to Exeter	268
Report of a Committee about Brentwood meeting-house	269
Joint petitions, &c., (relating to Brentwood)	270-272
Remonstrance—names	273
Agreement of parties (in Brentwood)	280
Survey of a Parish in Brentwood	290

VOLUME III.

EXETER TO JEFFERSON, pp. 275-430.

EXETER—CONTINUED.

Petition of Andrew Gilman and others about a meeting-house, 1743—names	275
Petition of sundry persons in Exeter for support of a minister among themselves	277
Petition to be exempted from support of a minister not of their choice—names	278
Petition in answer to that, praying for exemption, &c.	280
Replication to the foregoing	284
Petition of sundry inhabitants of Exeter, to be incorporated into a new Parish—names	291
Answer of the Town Committee of Exeter to the foregoing	293
Result and advice of an Ecclesiastical Council in Exeter, 1755	295
Acceptance of the foregoing Result and Advice	297

	PAGES.
Petition of John Odlin and others for power to call Parish meetings	297

FRANCESTOWN.

Petition for a land tax to build a meeting-house— names	299
--	-----

FRANCONIA.

Petition of John Wendell, agent for the town of Franconia	300
Petition of Alexander Phelps and others relating to forfeiture and re-grant of Franconia and Lin- coln	301

GILMANTON.

Petition for power to levy a tax, &c.	302
---	-----

GILSUM.

Vote of Westmoreland to set off a part of the inhab- itants to Gilsum; vote of Gilsum to set off the west end of the town: assent of inhabitants of Gilsum to be set off	303
Petition for a new town—names	304

GOFFSTOWN.

Petition of Archibald Stark for soldiers to guard the garrison at Amoskeag	306
Votes at town meetings in Goffstown	307
Petition for a Presbyterian Society—names	307, 308
Petition of inhabitants, 1772, relating to town dis- putes—names	308
A town meeting called, Proceedings, &c.	310, 311
Petition for an emission of paper money	311
A Bank of paper currency	313

GOSPORT.

	PAGES.
Petition to be exempt from paying taxes	313
Petition of Selectmen for remission of taxes	314
Petition for a Lottery, for protecting the harbour— names	316

GRANTHAM.*

Petition of John Sargents for a new charter	315
of Abel Stevens, for same	319

GREENLAND.

Petition of inhabitants for privileges	320
Petition of sundry persons to be joined to Greenland parish	321
Petition for a grant of certain powers	321, 322
for a township	322
Portsmouth votes relating to Greenland	323
Petition of inhabitants of Breakfast Hill	324
for extension of boundary lines	325
relating to tax warrant	326
for representation in the General Assembly	327

GROTON, FORMERLY COCKERMOUTH.

Petition of John Hale and Samuel Hobart for a re- grant	328
Memorial of James Gould and others	329

HAMPSTEAD.

Petition for a Parish	331
Vote of Kingston against setting off a Parish	332
Petition of Richard Hazzen about support of Rev. James Cushing	333
Petition of Edward Flint and others to be annexed, &c.	334

* By error, head-line, "Gosport," p. 319, should be Grantham. Ed.

HAMPTON & HAMPTON-FALLS.

	PAGES.
Petition of Selectmen about taxes	335
Petition of Abraham Drake and others about a tract of land, &c.	336
Certificate of Nathaniel Weare—of Jabez Smith	337
Petition for leave to make a separate tax	338
Request relating to highways	339
Petition relating to a Parish	340
Petition of inhabitants of Hampton-falls for a tavern	341
Petition for a new Parish	343
Concurrence therein—objections thereto	345
Petition of Hampton-falls for a Fair—grant thereof	345-346
Agreement relating to Rev. Ward Cotton	
Petition adverse to setting off a new Parish	347
Reasons against the same	348
Names of persons in different towns who petitioned to be annexed to Massachusetts, 1739, viz., in Hampton, Kingston, Hampton-falls, Chester, Stratham, Exeter, Kensington, and Greenland*	349-356
Reasons offered against a new district, and Remon- strance against the same	356, 357
Petition of persons formerly of Massachusetts to be annexed to Hampton-falls	358
Petition of inhabitants of N. E. part of Hampton to be exempted from minister's tax	359
Petition of sundry persons to be annexed to Hamp- ton-falls	360
Petition of persons in Haverhill not to be joined with Kingston	361
Notification of a Parish meeting to set off those who call themselves Presbyterians	362
Petition for a Presbyterian Society	363
Petition in answer to the foregoing petition	366
Petition for a Presbyterian Society renewed	370
An Act dividing Hampton-falls into two Parishes	372
Report of a Committee to fix the line between the two	373

* The said names are not repeated in the Index. Ed.

	PAGES.
Petition of the Parish of Hampton-falls in relation to delinquent tax-payers	374
Petition of Selectmen of Hampton-falls, to make a rate	376

HANOVER.

Petition of John House about Islands in Connecticut river	378
---	-----

HILLSBOROUGH.

Petition in relation to roads in Society-land	379
Petition for an Act of Incorporation	380
Petition of John Hill for protection from the Indians	381

HINSDALE.

Petition of Ebenezer Hinsdale in behalf of North-field	382
Petition of Proprietors and claimers of land in North-field south of the Province line	383
Petition of Ebenezer Hinsdale for protection against the Indians	385
Petition of Daniel Jones for remission of taxes	386
Province rate for the town of Hinsdale. 1764	388, 389
Names of inhabitants of Hinsdale, classed according to location, with amount of tax, on the West side of Connecticut river, and on the East side of Connecticut river, those of the East side, who live in other towns	390-392
Petition for a new County [Important]	393
Petition of Doct. Josiah Pomroy, for permission to inoculate in Hinsdale for small-pox	394

HOLDERNESS.

Petition of Samuel Livermore for two rights of land; deposition of Samuel Eaton; deposition of Thomas Vokes	394, 395
---	----------

	PAGES.
Petition of Proprietors for extension of their grant; to send a Representative	396

HOLLIS.

Petition for a Committee to locate the meeting-house	397
Petition of Samuel Cummings for protection against the Indians	399
Petition for a tax on non-residents' lands	400
for dividing the Province into two counties	401
of people at Pine Hill to be set off from Hollis	402

HOPKINTON.

Petition for an Act of Incorporation	404
Petition for power to lay a Tax on 4-5 th of the land, &c.	405
Petition relative to Province tax	406
for power to sell common land	409
of sundry persons for an Act of Incorporation	410
for Incorporation—reasons for	411-412
for a Tax on non-residents	414

HUDSON, FORMERLY NOTTINGHAM WEST.

Petition for a new Parish	416
for town privileges	417
for a Parish	418
of Selectmen for a hearing—names	420
Vote on the question of incorporation	422
Petition of John Marsh for a land-tax, &c.	423
Petition for Nottingham W. to be included in the west division of counties—names	424
Petition relating to fish in the Merrimack river	425
Another petition relating to the same	427
Depositions of Thomas Pollard; Benj. Marshall	428

JAFFREY, FORMERLY MONADNOCK, No. 3.

	PAGES.
Certificate to Mr. Josiah Willard	429

JEFFERSON, FORMERLY DARTMOUTH.

Petition to extend the time for making a settlement .	430
---	-----

VOLUME IV.

KINGSTON TO NEW BOSTON, pp. 431-556.

KINGSTON.

Original Grant or Charter	431
Petition for re-settling of Kingston	433
to be clear of public charges	433
to be discharged from cost of road	434
for abatement of Province tax; for a township	435
another for a township	
of East Parish about division of lines	437
Remonstrance against a new Parish	439
Petition of Jedediah Philbrick for partition of real estate	441
for a further hearing on Haverhill petition	442
relating to the Basford land grant	443
Petition of westerly part of Kingston for town privileges	446
Petition for a Justice of the Peace	447
for soldiers to keep the Fort	448
to remain in the old Parish	449
for a new Parish	450
relating to boundaries	451
Report of Committee on the same	453
Petition about small-pox	454

KENSINGTON.

Petition to send a representative	455
---	-----

KINGSWOOD.*

PAGES.

The Charter of Kingswood—names of grantees, proceedings, &c.	456-463
--	---------

LANCASTER.

Minutes of Council, relating to a road	463
Petition for soldiers	464

LANDAFF.

First granted to James Avery and others	464
Petition of Trustees of Dartmouth College,—and Minutes of Trustees	465

LEMPSTER.

Petition of Capt. Joseph Spencer for extension of charter	466
--	-----

LITCHFIELD.

Granted by Massachusetts, and known as Brenton's farm; Petition for a township	467
Petition of inhabitants of Litchfield and Nottingham West, for a township—names	468-469
Petition relating to support of a minister	470
relating to the settlement of a minister	471
relating to the payment of a minister	472
for men and military stores—names	473
of Nathan Kendall relating to boundary line	473
for a Parish on the East side of the river	474
relating to the same, as above	475
Petition to be included in the West division of Coun- ties	476
Petition of Isaac Cummings to be taxed in Notting- ham-west	477
Petition for a grant of a ferry, by Lucy Read	479

* Kingswood was probably never settled under that name. Ed.

LONDONDERRY.*

	PAGES.
Originally called Nutfield. 1719	479
Petition of Inhabitants for a Charter	480
for Bills of credit. &c.—names	481
Charter of Londonderry	483
Schedule of names of proprietors of Londonderry	484
Petition about running the lines	
relating to common lands	486
Oaths to be taken	
Names of persons who took the oaths	489
Petition about division of town lands	491
Differences about lands adjusted, and Petition for redress of injustice—names	492
Petition respecting aggressions, of Haverhill people against Haverhill people	493
relating to minister's tax. &c.—names	495
Counter petition to foregoing—names	498
Answer of Selectmen of Londonderry	499
Votes relating to the places of public worship	500
Petition of 2 ^d Congregation relating to Presbyterian authority	501
Act for incorporating a new Parish in Londonderry	502
Petition for a new Parish—bounds	504-505
of Samuel Barr	506
Petition for division of land, &c. of heirs of Rev. Thomas Thomson	507
Petition of inhabitants of old and new Parishes	508
of Selectmen respecting Parish bounds	510
to be taxed in Nottingham-west	511
Counter petition	513
Petition relating to a military company	514
Thanks to the Legislature for an Act relating to tav- erns	515
Petition, 1759, for discontinuance of a highway— names	516

* Readers will please take notice, that names in Londonderry which are of very frequent occurrence, are noted by a - joining the pages in which they are found. En.

	PAGES.
Petition for a law regulating fishing	519
relating to fish in Merrimack river—names	521
Petition about irregular proceedings in town meeting—names	525
Petition of Londonderry West Parish	528
of inhabitants of Londonderry. 1775	532
Agreement of Committees	533

LYME.

Petition for a ferry over Connecticut river	533
for a half-shire town	534

LYNDEBOROUGH.

Petition for protection against the Indians	535
Grant of Salem-Canada	536
Schedule annexed to charter, names, lots, &c.	540
Petition for an Act of Incorporation	541

MADBURY.

Petition for a Parish—names	541
Call for a town meeting in Dover	543
Bounds of the West end of Dover—names	544

MARLOW.

Heads of families, single men, &c.	546
Petition for extension of charter	547
Original proprietors and proprietors by purchase	548

MERRIMACK.

Petition for a tax on non-resident lands	548
Petition for dividing the State into Counties—Merrimack names; Bedford names	550
Petition to be attached to Col. Goffe's regiment—names	551

MONADNOCK, No. 7.

	PAGES.
Petition for an Act of Incorporation	552

NEW BOSTON.

Petition about minister and school lots—names	553
for a tax on certain lands—names	555
to raise taxes to finish the meeting-house	556

VOLUME V.

NEW CASTLE TO PORTSMOUTH, pp. 557-687.

NEW CASTLE.

Petition relating to tax, &c.	558
against a bridge at New Castle—names	559
New Castle's answer to Sandy-beach petition—names	561
Petition of inhabitants of New Castle and Rye— names	562
Petition for aid in behalf of the ministry	563
of Rev. John Blunt	564
Account of persons who voted for representative— names	566
Petition relating to a Lottery to build a bridge	566
for a Lottery to build a bridge—names	567

NEW DURHAM.

Proprietors' meeting—Petition	569
---	-----

NEWMARKET.

Papers relating to Newmarket bridge—names	570
Petition of inhabitants of Nottingham—names	571
of inhabitants of sundry towns—names	572-574
An act for erecting and maintaining a bridge, &c.	576
Answer of Exeter to petitions	577

	PAGES.
Reply to Exeter's objections	580
Petition of Stratham against the bridge—names	
of Kensington against the bridge—names	582
of Hampton Falls against the bridge—names	583
of Epping against the bridge—names	584
Vote of Kingston against said bridge	585
Vote and petition of East Kingston against it	586
Offer of land adjacent, by Philip Fowler and Robert Smart	587
Petition for a Lottery to build said bridge—names	588
Petition of inhabitants of sundry towns to build a bridge at Newfields—names	590
Another similar petition— <i>names not repeated in the Index</i>	593
Petition of inhabitants of Newmarket— <i>names not repeated in the Index</i>	596
Act to raise money by Lottery for a bridge	598
Petition of inhabitants of New Market. Stratham. &c.— <i>names not repeated</i>	600
Report of Committee relating to a highway in Newmarket	602
Petition of Selectmen, &c., for a highway—names	603

NEW IPSWICH.

Votes at a town meeting in New Ipswich	604
Petition for a Committee to settle a plan for a meeting-house—names	605
Account of the pay of petitioners and non-petitioners	606

NEWTOWN.

Petition of sundry inhabitants of Amesbury—names	607
of inhabitants of Almsbury Peek—names	608
Petition of Newtown—names in Almsbury district— of those in South Hampton	609-611
Report of a Committee	611
Petition of inhabitants in west part of Almsbury	612

	PAGES.
Petition of Sam ^l French and others against a new parish—names	613-619
Petition of inhabitants of South Hampton, east end	619
of Thomas and Joseph Fowler	620
Petition of sundry persons against a new Parish—names	621
Petition of Selectmen of South Hampton against the same	622
South Hampton, setting off 28 persons to a new Town; and 2 more polled off	624
Petition from South Hampton for a surveyor	625
Jona. Watson and Roger Eastman, poll off	626
Petition of Selectmen of South Hampton, about highways	627
Draft of an Order in Council for polling off, &c.	628
Supplemental charter of Newtown	629
Petition from Almsbury district	630

NOTTINGHAM.

Original charter of Nottingham	630
Note by John Farmer, Esq.; Shein Drown of Boston, petitioners request for a road—names	632
Petition of Capt. Peirce and Dr. Nath ^l Rogers, for a road	633
Petition for a tax on non-residents, for support of a minister	634
Petition for protection against the Indians	635
Vote to set off a Parish, &c.	636, 637
Petition to be eased of the Province tax	637
Petition of inhabitants in the South-west of Nottingham for Parish privileges	638
Petition for a separate Parish—names	639
to elect an Assembly-man—names	642
Statement relating to original rights—names	643

ORFORD.

PAGES.

A list of inhabitants in Orford with their families and ages—names	645
Single men—persons to whom Col. Moulton wrote to settle, &c.	646
Mem. ^o of the settlement and improvement of land in Orford—names	646, 647
Names of all the men, women and children in Orford; names and ages of the children	648, 649
Petition of William Simpson and others	650

PELHAM.

Petition of Henry Baldwin in behalf of the town of Pelham	652
Petition of selectmen of Pelham, to tax non-residents	653

PEELING.

Petition of Nathaniel Cushman; and memorial of Nath ^l Cushman and others for a re-grant of the township—names	655
--	-----

PEMBROKE.

Petition and memorial of Moses Foster	657
of Benjamin Holt, for a guard, &c.	659
Town meeting relating to Rev. Aaron Whittemore	659
Petition for a Justice of the Peace—names	660
of John Bryant, agent for the Presbyterians	661
for leave to send a representative—names	663

PETERBOROUGH.

Petition of the town of Peterborough, for town privileges	665
Petition for a new county—names	666

	PAGES.
Petition relating to Peterborough Slip, for annexation, &c.	667
Petition relating to Rev. John Morrison—names	668
for a division of Peterborough—names	669
against a division—names	671

PLAISTOW AND ATKINSON.

Petition of selectmen of Plaistow, about a constable	673
Vote of Haverhill district to set off Timberlain, and a letter from Rich ^d Waldron, &c.	674
Petition for a town or parish—names	675
against being set off as a new parish—names	676
Petition of inhabitants in the west part of Haverhill district, not to be incorporated—names	676
Petition not to join with Richard Hazzen's plan— names	677
Sanborn, Palmer and Weare's report of Haverhill district	678
Petition of Haverhill district for a new Parish—names	678
Petition for a Special Act (against thieves, &c.)— names	680
Memorial of Col. James White and others	681
Petition of sundry inhabitants of Plaistow	682
for release from support of Hugh Potter	683

PIERMONT.

Petition of the Committee of Piermont to the Gov- ernor	684
--	-----

PLYMOUTH.

Petition for leave to send a representative—names	685
for a re-survey of land, &c.	686
for a representative—names	687

VOLUME VI.

PORTSMOUTH TO WOLFEBOROUGH, pp. 688-824.

PORTSMOUTH.

	PAGES.
Original name—orders relating to a school, &c.	688
Petition for a grant of land, and Request to the selectmen of Portsmouth	689
Petition in relation to a meeting-house at the Plains—names	690
Petition relating to dividing the common land, [see Note; and for "General and Hist. Reg. 1870," read N. E. Hist. General. Reg. July, 1870, pp. 264-266]	693
Petition of the South Parish in Portsmouth	695
Remonstrance of Portsmouth selectmen	697
Answer to a petition relating to the choice of James Clarkson as representative	698
Deed from Theodore Atkinson and others. of their Rights in certain townships	703
Petition of Portsmouth selectmen about a Pest-house	704
Answer to a petition of Clement March, &c.	705
Petition for a Lottery to pave streets in Portsmouth	707
Petition of Portsmouth against a bridge at New Castle	708
Memorial for a bounty on fish, wheat, hemp, &c.	709
Petition of Selectmen, &c., to hold town meetings in the State-house	712
Another petition on the same matter	713
Portsmouth petition in regard to election returns	714

POWNALL, IN VERMONT.

Petition	715
--------------------	-----

PUTNEY, IN VERMONT.

Petition for a Grant of land	716
--	-----

RAYMOND.

	PAGES.
An act for erecting a new Parish, &c.	717
Petition in relation to a meeting-house	718

RINDGE (1).

Certificate—and copy of the Grant to Rowley-Canada, now Rindge, 1738	720
---	-----

ROCHESTER (1).

Meeting of Proprietors	721
Petition of Rochester relating to the gospel ministry	722
Petition of Wm. Chamberlin and John Jenness, for relief	723
Petition for a guard of soldiers, 1746	725
Petition for further relief and for a guard of sol- diers	726
Letter of thanks and petition for further aid	727
Petition of John Dam in relation to roads	728

RUMNEY.

Petition of sundry inhabitants, against Daniel Brainerd	730
Petition of Daniel Brainerd and others	732
Rev. Thomas Niles	733

RYE.

Petition for a new District or Precinct, 1721	734
to be set off as a new Parish or District, 1724	735
Vote and Remonstrance of Portsmouth against, 1724	737
Petition from Little Harbour, Sandy Beach, and Hampton, 1725	737
Another petition from the same source, 1725	739

(1) By error, the heading, "Rindge," extends over pages 721-729; it should be Rochester. Ed.

	PAGES.
Petition from the Parish of Rye, 1729	740
Petition from selectmen of Rye, relating to a violent storm, 1754	742
Petition for a Lottery to build a road, 1764	743

SALEM.

Petition of inhabitants of Methuen, 1741	744
for redress of grievances as to taxes	745
Letter from Theo. Atkinson to Selectmen of Londonderry and Windham, 1742	746
Petition for a Parish, 1743	746
of a part of Methuen to be a Township, 1746	748
in relation to taxes, 1746	749
for a Township, 1749	749
Letter from Daniel Peaslee to Thomas Packer, Esq.	750
Petition for redress of grievances, 1756	751
Certificate of former Constables: List of the men that served as Constables since it was first incorporated, till the year 1752	752
Another petition for redress, &c.	752

SALISBURY.

A guard of soldiers provided for this as a frontier town	753
Petition for aid in settling Salisbury	754

SANBORNTON.

Petition to be exempted from taxation	755
for incorporation	
for the appointment of a Justice of the Peace	757

SHELBURNE.

Petition of Daniel Kindge	758
-------------------------------------	-----

SOCIETY-LAND.

Petition for incorporation	759
--------------------------------------	-----

SOMERSWORTH.

PAGES.

A true List of all the train soldiers in Somersworth, under command of Capt. Thomas Wallingford, 1746	760
Petition for Town privileges, 1743	761

SOUTH HAMPTON.

Petition of sundry inhabitants to be set off, &c.	763
Petition of John Page and Benjamin Baker to be set off	764
Answer to the foregoing petition by the selectmen of South Hampton	765
Memorial of inhabitants of South Hampton	767
Petition in relation to a highway	772
relating to a Province tax	773
to be annexed to Newtown	774
Petition for settling the line between South Hamp- ton and Newtown	775

STRATHAM.

(Originally a part of the Squamscott or Hilton's Point Patent.)

Petitions for a Township	777
Petition to be set off into a Township	778
Counter petition	780
Petition of selectmen in relation to a meeting-house, and of Jonathan Wiggin for a Ferry	781
Summons to Richard Hilton, and Petition of Strat- ham relating to divisions about a minister	782
Another petition relating to the same matter	784

SWANZEY.

(Called Lower Ashuelot.)

Petition of William Sims, of Winchester—names	785
---	-----

TAUNTON.

(On West side of Connecticut River.)

Petition relating to No. 1, or Taunton-town—names	787
---	-----

WAKEFIELD.

	PAGES.
Petition for Incorporation	788

WARNER.

Petition of No. 1, or Essex Almsbury, 1742	789
Bounds--Meeting of Inhabitants--Petition for Incorporation, by Francis Davis	790

WEARE.

Petition of inhabitants of Hale's town, now Weare--names	791
--	-----

WENTWORTH.

List of those who had original Rights--names	792
--	-----

WESTMORELAND.

(Called Great Meadows.)

Petition of Inhabitants	793
-----------------------------------	-----

WILTON.

(Called No. 2.)

Deed from Joseph Blanchard, Esq., 1749	794
Petition for Incorporation--names	797
of Nathan Hutchinson and Benj. Kenrick	797, 798

WINCHESTER.

Petition for Incorporation; Note relating to Dartmouth College	798
Petition for relief	799

WINDHAM.

Petition of James Reid and William Parker	800
Incorporation of Windham as a Parish	802

	PAGES.
Deposition of James Gilmore—Certificate	803
Petition in relation to an irregular town meeting-- names	804
Town votes; Paper relating to an order of Court-- names	806
Windham's Caveat against Methuen--names	807
Warrant for a town meeting; votes, &c.	808
Petition for an alteration in their Charter--names	809
Petition against the proceedings of said meeting-- names	812
Deposition of Henry Sanders; Certificate--names	813
Town meetings; votes, &c.	814
Petition in relation to a disturbance in the Parish-- names	816
Answer of Selectmen to the foregoing petition	818
Deposition of Robert Hopkins	819
Deposition of Samuel Barr, and Petition relating to a Meeting-house--names	820
Petition of Oliver Saunders	822
Deposition of John Dinsmoor, &c.; List of men in Salem, formerly of Windham	823

WOLFEBOROUGH.

Petition for Incorporation	824
--------------------------------------	-----

ADDENDA.

TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN THE FOREGOING PAGES, pp. 825-830.

Alexandria	825
Allenstown	825
Andover	825
Antrim	825
Barnstead	825
Bath	825
Bradford	825
Bridgewater	825

	PAGES.
Brookline	826
Berton	826
Campton	826
Canaan	826
Candia	826
Centre-Harbour	826
Chatham	826
Claremont	826
Colebrook	826
Coventry	826
Danbury	826
East Kingston	826
Edlington	826
Ellsworth	826
Enfield	826
Enol	826
Fitzwilliam	826
Gilford	826
Grafton	826
Greenfield	827
Hancock	827
Haverhill	827
Hawke	827
Hemiker	827
Keene	827
Langdon	827
Lebanon	827
Lee	827
Lincoln	827
London	827
Lyman	827
Manchester	827
Marlborough	828
Mason	828
Meredith	828
Middleton	828
Milford	828
Mont Vernon	828
Moultonborough	828
Nelson	828
New Chester	828
New Hampton	828
Newington	828
New London	828
North Hampton	828
Northumberland	828

	PAGES.
Northwood	828
Orange	829
Plainfield	829
Poplin	829
Richmond	829
Sandown	829
Sandwich	829
Seabrook	829
Springfield	829
Stoddard	829
Stratford	829
Surry	829
Sutton	829
Tantworth	829
Temple	829
Thornton	829
Tuftenborough	830
Unity	830
Walpole	830
Warren	830
Washington	830
Wendell	830
Whitefield	830
Wilmot	830

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS, pp. 831-877.

Notes by the Editor	833
List of Delegates to the First Convention, 1778	834-837
Constitution proposed in 1779; Declaration of Rights	837-838
Plan of Government	838-842
Constitutional Convention, 1781, with List of Delegates	842-844
An Address of the Convention	845-852
Proposed Constitution—Part I. Bill of Rights	852-858
Form of Government. Part II.	858-877
The General Court	859-860
Senate	860-863

	PAGES.
House of Representatives	863-866
Executive Power--Governor	866-870
Council	870
Secretary, Treasurer, Commissary General, County Treasurer	871
Judiciary Power, Clerks	871-872
Delegates to Congress	872
Encouragement of Literature	873
Oaths, Subscriptions, &c., &c.	873-877

Second Address of the Convention, 1782	877-882
The Bill of Rights--Note by the Editor	882
Constitution or Form of Government, Part II.	883-895
Note by the Editor	895-896

CONSTITUTION, as adopted, 1784	896
Part I. Bill of Rights. [See Editor's Note.*]	896-903
Part II. Form of Government	903-919

ERRATA.

Page 3, Elijah "King" should be Thing.
 Pages 63-75, the head-lines should be Bow, not "Boscawen."
 Page 136, Aug. 29, 1772, should be 1722.
 Page 319, head-line, "Gosport," should be Grantham.
 Page 310, Hugh "Milson," should be Wilson.
 Page 343, Thomas "Willet," should be Willey.
 Page 551, Thomas "Rickere," should be Vickere.
 Page 693, Note, "General," should be "Genearl." and Hist. Reg.
 Pages 722-729, head-lines should be Rochester, not "Rindge."
 Page xli, Note, Hon Charles Doe, late Judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, not "Superior."

* In the reference to Hon. Charles Doe, in this Note, it should read, late Judge of the *Supreme* Judicial Court, not "Superior." Ed.

THE WHEELWRIGHT DEED.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

On pages 56-60, Vol. I. Prov. Papers, the "WHEELWRIGHT DEED," as it is called, is printed in full. In a Note on that Deed, p. 56, the Editor says, "That in the course of the following records particular facts will be noted, that may enable readers to form an opinion respecting the validity of the Deed." In this Volume, the Editor deems it proper to state, in brief, the conclusion which he has himself reached on that matter;—reserving his argument, in full, for publication in some other form.

The conclusion which the Editor has reached from all the facts which have come before him, is, that the said Deed is a FORGERY.

This Deed bears date, May 17, 1629, and purports to be a conveyance by four Indian Sagamores, of a tract of land equal to about forty miles square—between the Piscataqua and Merrimack rivers—to John Wheelwright, "late of England, of the Massachusetts Bay, and a minister of the Gospel," with four associate grantees, "all of the Massachusetts Bay."

The following are among the proofs that said deed is a forgery:

I. Aside from this pretended Deed, we have no evidence that the Rev. John Wheelwright was ever seen or heard of in this country till his arrival, May 26, 1636; not one of the associate grantees was here before that time; and one of them, William Wentworth, was a boy only fifteen years of age then, at Alford, in England.

II. The settlement of "the Massachusetts Bay" proper was not begun till more than a year after May, 1629, i. e., not till June, 1630.

III. The deed purports to be signed and sealed in the presence of two English witnesses, one of whom was certainly in England on the 17th of May,—six days previous—and the other was on shipboard on the Atlantic Ocean, and did not arrive in this country till June 29, 1629.

IV. Of the seven witnesses to the delivery of the deed, it is certain that only one, Edward Hilton, was in this country at that time; and if he signed the deed, he signed away all his right and title to the plantation on which he lived.

V. The above seven witnesses are said to be governors or stewards of plantations, called Laconia, Sawco and Squams-cott or Hilton's Point; but not one of the said plantations was granted till six or nine months after May, 1629.

VI. The deed purports to have been made by the Indians "with a desire to have the English inhabit amongst them." But

Passaconaway, the chief Sagamore, explicitly denies this, and declares "he did all he could to prevent their settlement, and fought against them."

VII. The date of the deed, May 17, 1629, proves to be the Sabbath, and therefore false to the principles and character of Rev. John Wheelwright.

VIII. On April 3, 1638, John Wheelwright and his associates made an actual *bona fide* purchase, of Indians, at Squams-cott—now Exeter—paid for the same and began a settlement:—which is inconsistent with the pretence that he bought in 1629, paying twice for the same land.

IX. The deed of 1629 occupies three and a half octavo pages, or one hundred and forty-two lines, while all the real Indian deeds of that early period are no more than sixteen or twenty-four lines: and therefore it betrays itself as belonging to a later period.

X. One condition or proviso in the deed is that the settlement, when begun, should be under "the government, laws and order of the Massachusetts Bay." But John Wheelwright came to Exeter, in 1638, as an exile, banished out of the territory and jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Bay, and immediately set up an independent government.

XI. The pretended deed of 1629 antedates the grant of New Hampshire to Captain John Mason, which is dated Nov. 7, 1629: and the evident intent and object of the deed was to head off a claim made by Thomas Allen, of title and possession, founded on said grant to Mason: the trial of which was before the Superior Court of New Hampshire, August 12, 1797. Then, for the first time, was the pretended deed brought to light—seventy-eight years after the date of it: and even then, only a "copy" of the pretended original was brought into court. This "copy," now on the files of the Superior Court, at Exeter, is the only evidence that Dr. Belknap quotes for the validity of the deed.* [See Prov. Papers of N. H., Vol. II., pp. 522-528.]

* The first discovery and exposure of this forgery was made by the late Hon. James Savage, of Boston, President of the Massachusetts Historical Society, about 1820: his views were re-affirmed, with additional evidence, by the late John Farmer, Esq., Corresponding Secretary of the New Hampshire Historical Society, in 1831. The opinion above expressed by the Editor is the result of an original investigation of the facts that relate to the case. It is but just, however, to add, that the late Samuel G. Drake, Esq., of Boston, maintained an opposite opinion, as does also the Hon. Charles H. Bell, of Exeter. [See Winthrop's History of New England, 1853, Vol. I., App. II, pp. 486-514; Farm. Belknap's History of New Hampshire, Vol. I., pp. 6-13; Drake's History of Boston, 1856, pp. 56-60, notes.] Ed.

NEW HAMPSHIRE EARLY TOWN PAPERS.

VOLUME IX.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

The "TOWN PAPERS" contained in this volume are copied from separate MSS. volumes, six in number, now in the office of the Secretary of State. They were arranged by authority of the Legislature, by the late John Farmer, Esq. The contents of each volume are copied as arranged, with a very few exceptions, (in which an error was discovered,) and are distinguished as labeled on the MSS. volumes by the towns which they severally include: e. g. Vol. I. "Acworth to Chichester;" Vol. II. "Concord to Exeter;" &c. In the GENERAL CONTENTS also, the volumes are kept distinct. ED.

VOLUME I.

ACWORTH TO CHICHESTER.

ACWORTH.

[This town was incorporated 19 September, 1766. An extension of its Charter was granted 30 May, 1772.]

Memorial of Sampson Stoddard and Jonathan Blanchard.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hamp^r—the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council for said Province—

The Memorial of Sampson Stoddard & Jonathan Blanchard for themselves & others part of the Grantees in the Town of Acworth in said Province—

Humbly shews that your Memorialists have Done Something Very Considerable Towards Bringing forward the Settlement thereof, have now a Considerable Number of Families well Settled there, have a Good Set of Mills there have Cut

Cleared & in a Great Measure well finish'd a Road thro' Said Town Mark'd & Lay'd out by a Committee appointed by an Act of the General Court;

That it has not been in your Memorialists power Strictly to fulfil the Several Conditions in Said Grant Stipulated That the Time Limited in his Majestys Grant of Said Town for Doing the Duty of Settlemt' Expir'd the Last Month

Your Memorialists therefore pray that they may be Indulg'd a Little While to Compleat the Settlemt' afores'd & your Memorialists as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c

SAMPSON STODDARD
JON^t BLANCHARD.

Petition for the Extension of the Charter of Acworth. 1772.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t Gene^l Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of Hamp^r the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council for Said Province

The Petition of Jonathan Blanchard of Merrymac in Said Province humbly shews—

That your Petitioner is Considerably Interested in the Town of Acworth in Said Province under his Majestys Grant thereof, hath with Col^l Sampson Stoddard been making Large Improvements there by Persons under them much to the emolument of Said Town That the Time Limited for Doing the Duty Condition^d in the Grant aforesaid Expir'd the 19th Day of September 1771, that a Number of the Original Grantees have Neglected to Perform the Several Conditions in Said Grant Express^d much to the prejudice of the Settlemt' of Said Town. Namely David MacGregore, James MacGregore, Thomas Craige, James MacGregore Jun^r Alexand^r Clark, James Miltinmer, Jonathan Gilmore, Daniel Macfee, Robert Adams, Ephraim Adams, Samuel French, Oliver Farwell, Oliver Farwell Jun^r, Thomas Davis, the Rev^d Ebenezer Bridge, Edward Goldstone Lutwyche, Samuel Wentworth Esq^r, Peter Levius Esq^r, Col^l Jonathan Greeley, William Symes, Maj^r John Wentworth, Wiseman Clagget Esq^r, Samuel Cumings & Robert Fletcher:

Wherefore your Petitioner humbly Prays that your Excellency & Honors woud Take the Premises into Consideration Grant your Petitioner & his as'ciate Col^l Sampson Stoddard a further Time to Compleat the Duty Enjoyn'd upon their Interest which is Nearly Done & otherwise Dispose of the Delinquent Prop^r Interest & Shares to such of his Majestys Good Subjects as Will Effectually Settle & Cultivate the Same & your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

JON. BLANCHARD.

*Gen. Wentworth's Warrant to inspect the Settlement in Acworth,
May, 1772.*

(Province of) By his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain
New Hampshire) General Governor & Command^r in Chief in and over
His Majesty's Province aforesaid & vice Admiral of the same.

To Simeon Olcott Esq^r Capt. Benjamin Church Esq^r M^r Elijah King
and M^r Thomas Sparhawk, Greeting.—

Pursuant to an order of Council of 30th April ult^o you, or any three
of you, are hereby authorized and Impowered to Survey and Inspect
the township of Acworth in this Province: and return into the Secre-
tary's office, upon Oath, the exact State of Settlement & Cultivation
upon each Lot or Share therein, together with the number of Families
& Settlers actually resident with the Roads and Buildings in said Town-
ship which Business you are desired to enter upon immediately, so as
to make your Return, as aforesaid, by or before the 25th day of May Ins^t
for which this is your full and sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand at Portsmouth the First day of May in the
Twelfth year of His Majesty's Reign Annoque Domini 1772.

J^{WENTWORTH}.

By his Excellency's Command
with advice of Council.

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

Pursuant to the within warrant we y^e subscribers have sur-
veyed and Inspected the Township of Acworth with the
Settlements Cultivation on each Lot or Share of Land therein,
and also the Families, Settlers Buildings & Roads in y^e same.
& find the State thereof as represented in the Schedule hereto
annexed, and make return of y^e same accordingly

SIMEON OLCOTT
ELIJAH THING.

May y^e 16th 1772.

LIST OF FAMILIES AND SETTLERS IN ACWORTH

FAMILIES AND SETTLERS.	Lot No.	Range No.	ORIGINAL GRANTEES.	Improved Lands.	Partly Cleared.	Houses, &c.
Ephraim Keyes.....	10	6	John Hardy.....	30		1
William Keyes.....	13	2	James B. Richard.....	30	5	1
Dea n Carlton.....	10	5	Reuben Gould.....	12	20	1
Samuel Harper.....	12	4	William Pierce.....	12		1
Same.....	11	4	David Barger.....	15		
Capt. Henry Silsby.....	12	6	Obenezzer Gould.....	25	3	
Same.....	11	5	Samuel Thayer.....	7	6	1
Jonas Keyes.....	11	2	Stephen Powers.....	4	6	
Samuel Smith.....	9	5	Moses Kester.....	10	4	1
David Cross.....	15	5	Augustus Blanchard.....	10	2	1
Saml. Smith Junr.....	14	2	Saml. Parker.....	7	1	
Elijah Parker.....	11	3	Benjamin Killecut.....	3	3	1
John Rogers.....	7	2	Benjamin French.....	3	2	
Same.....	7	3	Ye same.....	25		1
Same.....	6	3	Oliver Farwell.....	11		
Edward Keyes.....	9	4	Nathl Garfield.....	6	7	
Joseph Chatterton.....						
James Leeson.....	11	1	William Thompson.....	20	2	1 & Barn
Robt. Furlyson.....	7	1	William Rodle.....	4	1	1
Solomon Bagdow.....	12	3	Same.....	3	1	1
William Farwell Junr.....	5	3	John Parker.....	1	7	
Joel Bagdow.....	13	3	William Steer.....	1	1	
Thos. Putnam.....	5	5	Tas. Bagdow.....		1	1
Same.....	5	6	Samuel Stebbins.....	20	2	1
Benjamin Stebbins.....	14	7	John Ryer.....	20	2	1
Jonathan Silsby.....	13	7	Samuel Tinsley.....	4	1	
William Farwell.....	12	7	Oliver Peirce.....		1	
Frederic Keyes.....	12	1	Jonathan Blanchard.....	8		
Ephraim Keyes.....	11	6	David Brown.....	4		
Same.....	9	6	Samuel Stebbins Esqr.....	10		
Joseph Webb.....	7	5	James Rogers.....	1	1	

The within is an exact State of ye settlement & Cultivation on each Lot & Share of Land in ye Township of Acworth in the Province of New Hampshire, with ye families & Setlers therein and about four miles of the main Road leading from Charlestown to Boscawen, at ye westerly End made passable for Carriage and ye Remainder of ye same Road Cut about one Rod wide and so far leveled that Carriages might pass with Difficulty Also one other Road from ye said Main Road to the Mills, about two Miles in length well made & fit for Carriages, which with some few private Roads made passable only for man & horse is all the Improvement & Cultivation we could find in said Township: which is humbly submitted.

Pr SIMEON OLCOTT
ELIJAH THING.

Cheshire ss May 18th 1772 Then Mr. Elijah Thing personally appearing made Oath to y^e Truth of y^e above Report by him Signed before me

SIMEON OLCOTT Just^s Pac^s

ALSTEAD.

A True List of the Inhabitants now Settled in the Town of Alstead, with their familys, and those that have begun to settel, and single men, that have worked on their Land Viz:

Twenty five Families now Inhabiting in said Town, also ten Single men, at work on their Land that are now resident also nine men more that have been and made Considerable Improvement on their Land some of which have ten, twelve, and some near twenty acres, under Improvement, and are all coming into Town with their families in the Spring as soon as the Season will admit of it, also Sundry Persons to the number of Eight that have made Considerable Improvement on their Land some have ten acres others near twenty and one about Thirty acres under Improvement which are moved off and Expect to have others on in their room directly. All which is a True account of what is done Toward the Settelment of said Town of Alstead. Taken by us the Subscribers this 23 day of December 1771.

SAMUEL CHANDLER	} Selectmen of Alstead.
JASON WAIT	
OLIVER SHEPARD	

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c: and to the Honorable His Majestys Council in said Province &c

The Humble Petition of the Proprietors and Inhabitants of the Township of Alsted in said Province Humbly Sheweth That whereas the Charter of said Alsted is out and thereby some of the rights or Shares are become forfeited: But we do rely on Your Excellency and Honors Clemency and Mercy when you shall see the account of what Persons is already settled and settling in said Town, and as by the Providence of God our Crops has been for these four years past much shortened by frost Dearth and worms and the last year by Blast which has caused Provision to be very scarce, and as that many of those People that Settle new Towns have but littel money to help themselves with and as the Scarcity of Provision has been such had People moved in much faster than what they have they must have Suffered for want of Provision as it could not have been Procured with money had they had it. Therefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that Your Excellency and Honors would take it into Your wise Consideration and if Consistant with your Wisdom to Lengthen out the time to those that have been Delinquent in doing their Duty would take it as a great favour, If Your Excellency and Honors should

think it not Proper to Grant any further time to those Delinquent to do their Duty in we Your Petitioners the Inhabitants pray that it may be Granted to us for our Children that have endured the many Fatigues and Hard-ships in bringing forward the Settlement of Said Town, and Your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray

Jenecuary the 13th 1772.

Jonathan Shepard
Shubel Waldo
Samuel Chandler
Jason Wait
Oliver Shepard
Andrew Beckwith
Joseph Brown
John Thomson

Edward Waldo
Daniel Waldo
Gideon Delano
Elias Brown
Barnabas Delano
Elijah Cone
Philip Wordner

Those Names above Is What of the Inhabitants that has signed & those below Is men that Live out of town that have Land in s^d District:

B. Bellows
Joshua Hide
Abishai Delano

Jonth Chase
James Richardson
Moses Brown

AMHERST

[Amherst was granted by the Government of Massachusetts, 26 April, 1733, and was called Narragansett No. 3, which name was afterwards exchanged for Souhegan West, which it retained until the charter was granted, 18 January, 1760, by Gov. B. Wentworth. It was not under the government of New Hampshire until 1741, when the establishment of the line separated it from Massachusetts.—ED.]

PAPERS RELATING TO AMHERST (INCLUDING MONSON).

Request of the Inhabitants of Souhegan West for a suitable Guard to defend them from the French & Indian Enemy. 1744.

Att a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Settlement or Plantation, called Souhegan West in the Province of New Hampshire at the house of Dan^l Wilkins ye 16th of June 1744.

Unanimously agreed that Dan^l Wilkins of this place in the name and behalf of the Settlers here Represent to the Governor and Council of New Hampshire our distressed Circumstance on account of our being Exposed to the French and Indian Enemy our Low Condition & Inability to subsist here unless a Suitable guard may be had to defend us when about our work; and that he make suitable application that these things may Immediately be obtained.

witness to the vote

SOLOMON HUTCHINSON (1)
JONATHAN TARBELL
JOHN VENE.

(1) Mr. Hutchinson was the first Town Clerk when Amherst was incorporated. He died in Maine, at the age of 69 years.—ED.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. General and Governor in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England the Honorable the Council and House of Representatives in General Court convened.

The Memorial or Petition of Dan^l Wilkins in the name and behalf of the Inhabitants of the Township or Plantation called Souhegan West No. 3 in the said Province—

Humbly sheweth the said Town has been settled by his Majesties subjects about nine years and a Gospel Minister ordained almost three years that the Settlers had an Eye at enlarging his Majesties Dominions by going into the Wilderness as well as at their own Interest, that some thousand of pounds has been spent in clearing and cultivating the Land there and vast sums in building Houses Barns & fences beside much time and expence in building fortifications by his Excellency the Governors order.

That the Breaking up the Settlement will not only ruin the Memorialists but greatly disserve his Majesties Interest by encouraging his Enemies to Encroach on his deserted Settlements and be also hurtful to the Province by Contracting its borders and drawing the war nearer the Capital :

That it was by a long and importunate Intercession of this Province. (and not of the Memorialists Seeking) that they are cast under the immediate care of this Government which they conceive give them so much the better Right to its protection :

That as war is already declared against France and a Rupture with the Indians hourly expected your Memorialists unless they have speedy help will soon be obliged to forsake their Town how diservisable soever it may be to the Crown dishonorable to the Government hurtfull to the Province & ruinous to themselves :

Wherefore,

Your Memorialists most humbly supplicate your Excellency the honorable Council and House of Representatives to take the premises into your wise and mature Consideration and to grant them such seasonable relief as may enable them to subsist in the war and secure against the Ravages and Devastation of a blood thirsty and merciless Enemy and your Memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

DAN^l WILKINS.

Dated at Portsmouth
June ye 22^d 1744.

Petition for protection against the Indians. 1747.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Gov. &c The
Hon. his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in
Generall Assembly Convened May 13th 1747.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the New
Plantation called Souhegan West Humbly *Sheweth* That there
is Settled and now remains in this plantation thirty five fami-
lys in which is about Fifty eight men upwards of sixteen years
old. That when we began our Settlement, we apprehended no
Danger of Our ever being a frontier, there being at that time
so many above us begun and obligated to fulfill the Conditions
of the Massachusetts Grants, which occasioned us to settle
scattering, only Regarding the Advantages of Good and Com-
pact farms. That the difficulty of War happening so early on
our Settlements, and the Defenceless Condition they was in,
has obliged them all viz: Petersborough Salem-Canada New
Boston & Hillsborough (so called) Intirely to draw off as well
as the Forts on Connecticut River left naked. Whereby we
are now left as much exposed as any of the Frontiers on Mer-
rimumack River

That the First year of the present war we was Favoured
with a Scout from This Province (which we Thanktully ac-
knowledge) and Salem-Canada with an other which was
Equally Serviceable to us Since that time, both Salem-
Canada and this Place has had a guard from the Massachusetts
till the Winter passed together with our Inhabitants keeping a
constant Scout (Tho much Impoverished thereby) That this
encouragement has occasioned our venturing here till now
That as we are now left without either Scout or Guard—Ap-
prehend we are in Imminent Danger, Yet Loath to yield
Ourselves Such an easy Prey to Our Enemies or Suffer Ruin
by leaving our Improvements wast. One Whereof we have no
Reason to Think, but must unavoidably be our lot, unless this
Government Compassionately Grants us Protection.

Wherefore Your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that your
Excellency & Hon^r would so far Comiserate our Present Dif-
ficult Circumstances as to Grant us so many Soldiers as your
Excellency & Hon^r may Judge of Necessity for Our Defence
and your Peti^r as in Duty bound Shall Pray &c.

Daniel Wilkins
John Shepard
his
Joseph X. Wilkins
mark
Benj Cheever
John Davis
James Cofren
Samuel Walton
William Peabody

William Howard
Jacob Wellman
his
David X. Hartsorn
mark
Andrew Bixbe
Andrew Seeton
William Bradford
Ebenezer Ellinwood
Thomas Clark

Solomon Hutchinson
Daniel Wilkin Jun^r
Benjamin Cheever Jun^r
Israel Towne

John Seetown
Ebenezer Lyon
Caleb Stiles.

In Council May 13th 1747 read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Petition from Monson. (1)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Gov^r &c The Hon^{ble} his majestys Council & House of Rep^{es} in Gen^l Assembly convened May 13th 1747.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the town of Monson, Hereunto Subscribers Humbly Shews That the Said town is Lately begun to Settle & but about Fifteen Familys there.

That they are one of the Frontier Towns west of Merrimack River, & the most northerly One, already incorporated, Lying Between Hollis & the New Plantation Called Souhegan West.

That could we be assisted by Souldiers Such Competent number as might Enable us to Defend our Selves Shall Chearfully Endeavour to Stay there by Which we Shall Serve as a Barrier in part to Hollis Merrimack and Danstable.

That last year we was Favoured by Souldiers From the Massachusetts, that Prevented Our Drawing off.

That Should the War be pursued by the Enemy as vigorously as Last year, (unless we are Favoured by some assistance from Y^r Government) We Humbly apprehend 'twould be too great Presumption to venture our Selves & Familys there

That it will be very Ruinous to your Petitioners To leave their Settlements & the Frontier Widned, & for a Necessary Defence will Require a Greater number of Souldiers than to assist us there

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that your Excellency & Hono^{rs} would be pleased to Take the Premises into your Consideration & Grant us a Guard for two Garrisons & a small Scout on Our Front Or Otherwise Releive us in the Premises as in your Great Wisdom Shall Seem meet & y^r Pet^{rs} as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray.

James Wheeler
William Neivens
William Colburn
Robert Colburn
Jonathan Taylor
Samuel Leman
Samuel Leman Jun^r

Abraham Leman
Thomas Neivens
Benjamin Hopkins
Isaac Farwell
Stephen Haslton
John Burns
Thomas Mordow

In Council May 13th 1747 read & ordred to be Sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

⁽¹⁾ The town of Monson lay adjacent to Amherst, and was afterwards incorporated with it in part.—Ed.

Prov^e of New }
Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 15th May 1747.

Voted That in answer to y^e two annexed Petitions Viz: that of Souhegan West & that of Monson, His Excellency be desired to give orders for inlisting or impressing fifteen good executive men to Scout & guard under proper officer or officers s^t Souhegan West & Monson til y^e twentyeth of octo^r next if need be & that s^t men be shifted once a month.

D. Peirce Clk.

Eo^{im} Die In Coun^l read and Concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Eo^{dai} Die Assented to

B WENTWORTH.

Petition of Monson, for annexation. &c.

Province of New } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth
Hampshire } Esq Gov^r &c & To the Hon^{ble} His Majes-
tys Council the day of 1754.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the town of Monson Humbly *Shews*

That there is a tract of Land of about the Contents of seven Thousand acres Lying on the North of Monson and adjoining Included by the following Bounds. viz 1. to begin at Monson Northeast Corner and to Run North by the Town of Merrymac Two miles and the next Station to begin at the North west Corner of Monson & to Extend north two miles and from thence a Strait line to the end of the aforementioned Two mile. and to Bound Southlierly on Monson afores^d. On Which Sundry Familys are Settled & would be of accomodation & Convenience to Monson to have them annexed and Incorporated with Monson and would with that addition make it but about five miles and an half in Breadth one place with the other that Sundry of the Inhabitants of the s^t Tract bath together with this Petitioned your Excellency & Honors to be annexed and Incorporated with us. (And as we apprehend would be of Great Convenience to them. & help to us.)

Wherefore we most Humbly Pray that your Excellency and Hon^{rs} would be pleased to annex and Incorporate the s^t Tract with the Inhabitants Thereon to the town of Monson & your Pet^{rs} as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray

BENJAMIN HOPKINS }
ROBERT COLPUEN } Selectmen.
BENJAMIN FARLEY }

Elisha Towne
William Neuens
Benjamin Kenrick
Secur Farwell
Thomas Neuens
James Wheeler
Thomas Powers
Thomas Woolley

William Colborn Jun
Ebenezer Ball
William Colborn
John Burns
Josiah Crosby
Nathan Hutchinson
Benjamin Hopkins Junr.

few more that has not sin'd

Petition of Monson to be exempt from taxes.

Province of New Hampshire } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth
 Esqr Gov^r &c. the Hon^{ble} his Majestys
 Councill & House of Repres^{nts} Convened In Gen^l Assembly

Humbly Shews The Pet^r of the Inhabitants of Monson
 That Whereas they Have Recd a late Order to render into the
 Secretarys Office an Invoice of their poles & estates in order
 for apportioning the taxes Which we have done, and Woud
 Further beg leave to Remonstrate Our Infancy & Inability to
 bear any part of the publick Charge at present.

That there is but thirty six poles in the Whole. Severall of
 them transiently hired for a short space to Labour or other-
 ways there without any Estate: but twenty one Houses Chiefly
 Small Cottages only for a present Shelter the Charge of
 Building yet to Come on.

That they are all plain men Dwelling in these tents. Hus-
 bandry their Employment their Improvements very small,
 their Lands yet to Subdue. The Progress much Retarded by
 their Necessity to work out of town the prime of the year or
 at Other Business to procure provision Tho the town is part
 of Old Dunstable it has always till now bin a frontier and
 Remained a total Wilderness till within a few years the
 Owners under no Injunction of Settlement the Land very
 antionly Granted to Gent^l in farms, & part of the Divisions
 of Dunstable Comon who still hold the Greatest part and
 Continue unimproved by Which means the few settlers are
 scattered all ab^t the town much Labour has & must be spent
 in Opening and making Roads & Bridges Causes &c that are
 of Present Necessity, a burthen of it self too Heavy for the
 Strength of the small weak number that is there, in the late
 war at the expence of Garisoning Scouting & Defending
 themselves Besides many Other charges they have & must go
 thro so therefore apprehend themselves utterly unable to Bear
 any part of the publick taxes as yet, but hope their Small
 Bgining in time may become usefull if they may be nurssd &
 favoured now In their Infancy

Wherefore your Pet^r Humbly pray that they may be Con-
 sidered in this their Infant & Chargable State & that they may
 not be taxed, till they are of ability to go thro their own neces-
 sary charge and when that shall be they will Chearfully
 Contribute according to their Power & shall ever pray &c

In behalf of y^e Inhabitants

BENJ^l HOPKINS } Selectmen
 ROBERT COLBURN } of Monson.

Prov^a N Hamp^r April 25 1753.

The within Petition read & ordered to be Sent Down to the Honb^{le}
 House of representatives.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Petition for annexation.

Province of) To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr
New Hamp) Governour &c the Honorable his Majestys Coun-
cil

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of a tract of Land north of and adjoining to Monson Lying with no Incorporation of any town or District Humbly Shews—

That the Town of Monson in this Province is situated in Length East & West near eight miles & in Breadth but about four miles & is Bounded on the Northerly Side by Souhegan River Both Sides of Which River is in the General Fruitfull & Profitable Land for Corn and Grass

That if the Limits of the Town of Monson afores^d Were Enlarged on the North so as to add & Include the Following tract viz. to begin at the Northeast Corner of Monson on Souhegan River & extend North by the line of Merrymac Two Miles. & to begin the next Station at the Northwest corner of Monson afores^d & to Run thence North two miles and strait line from thence to the two mill's end first mentioned and to Bound to the old Bounds of Monson Which will be an addition of about seven thousand acres and will Make the Said town of Monson In the Genereal about five miles & an half In Breadth.

That the said River is Small and many Bridges are New and must Continue to be kept in Repair so that the Said River is of no Ill convenience to the uniting the Incorporation as afores^d & will be for the Accomolation of Monson: Several of us has for many years ben Settled there & at Heavy Expençe made Our Improvements

That we have not had the benefit of any Incorporation in any Town, nor see any Present Prospect unless wee are annexed to Monson

That Monson then will be upwards of seven Miles the North Line and Lands to the North of them not Incorporated. so that it Can be no Predjudice to any Incorporation of any number of people for the Future the Land Generealy alike and Chiefly Good.

Wherefore your Petition^{rs} most Humbly Pray That your Excellency & Hon^{rs} would take ye premises into Consideration and be pleased to annex & Incorporate the tract afores^d with the Inhabitants to Monson as one Corporate Town & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

John Shepard
Andrew Bridford
his
Achelaus x Wilkins
mark
John Eversden
John Hutchinson
Edward Beming (?) junr

William Peabody
Israel Towne
Thomas Williams
Richard Gould
John Edmonds
Edward Beming?

Petition of Amherst for an extension of its Charter 1761.
 To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor in chief
 in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire and
 to the Honorable the Counsell.

The Memorial of us the Subscribers the Select Men of the
 Town of Amherst in the Province aforesaid. Humbly shew-
 eth that we with the Lowest Submission Sollicitously pray
 that your Excellency and Honours would Lengthen out the life
 of the Charter of our Town and we doubt not but your Ex-
 cellency and Honours in your Great wisdom & Clemency will
 do it during the Kings pleasure and so your Memorial sts as in
 Duty bound will ever pray.

REUBEN MUSSEY } Selectmen
 THO^s WAKEFIELD } in behalf of
 WILLIAM PEABODY } the Town.

Amherst Dec^r y^r)
 15th 1761. }

N. B. We the Subscribers Select men of the Town of Am-
 herst Nominate and appoint Col. John Goss Esqr to represent
 to his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council our
 Memorial above specified to prolong our Town Charter.

Province of) To the Gentlemen of the House of Representatives for
 New Hamp^s) said Province—

There was a vote in the House of Representatives January
 28th 1761 That the Selectmen of the Oldest adjoining Town
 to any Town Parish or District where no Select men were
 should take Inventory of such Town &c and be paid by the
 Province Pursuant thereto We took Inventory of Lyndebor-
 ough and sent the same to the Sec^y as Directed by the afore-
 said vote—The taking of which Inventory took us Two Days
 of hard Service (there being Considerable of Snow on the
 Ground at the time when we were obliged to do it) And
 there is Justly Due to Each of us New Ten^r one Pound Ten
 Shillings per day To^t £9:0:0 which we doubt not but you
 will Immediately Grant & allow.

Decem^r 30th 1762.

WILLIAM PEABODY } Selectmen
 ROBERT READ } of
 JN^s SHEPARD junr } Amherst.

Province of) In the house of Representatives Jan'y 20th 1763.
 New Hamp^s) This Ac't being Read

Voted that there be allowed nine pound new Tenor. and paid to Se-
 lectmen of Amherst or their order Out of money in the Treasury for
 Contingances.

A Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die

Read & Concur'd

T Atkinson junr Secry

Consented to B WENTWORTH.

Memorandum of some proposals for an Accommodation Between the Selectmen of Monson & Amherst Viz. the Town of Amherst to take or have Annexed the following extent or part of Monson Namely begining at the Northeast Corner of Monson & Running Southerly on the East Line of said Monson Two miles then Running a Line paralell with the North Line of Amherst to the west line of Monson Then northerly on the westerly line of said Monson to the northwest corner thereof Provided the Town of Hollis will take or have annexed the residue of said Monson.

April y^e 20th 1763. We the subscribers consent to the above proposal

BENJ ^a KENRICK	} Selectmen of Monson
DANIEL KENRICK	
JOSIAH CROSBY	

Hollis April 28th 1763

Samuel Cummings	} Selectmen of Hollis
Francis Worcester	
Stephen Webster	

Robert Reed	} Selectmen of Amherst
Samuel Stenard	
Tho ^s Wakefield	
Daniel Campbell	
Jn ^s Shepard jun ^r	

Letter of Rev. Daniel Willins of Amherst relating to a Shire town in the proposed division of the Province into Counties.

1 Oct. 1767.

To the Hon^{ble} GEORGE JAFFERY Esq^r in Portsmouth
Hon^d & Dea^r Sr

After due salutation, I beg leave to inform your Hon^r that the proposal of the General Court that Merrimack be the Shire Town of the County on the West side of Merrimac River has raised a general uneasiness throughout the whole County evin many thinking men in Merrimack itself (as I have been credibly informed) are well satisfied that if the Proposal be established it will be greatly to the Town Damage in general, as they are small in Number, consisting of seventy odd Families no more and them exceeding much scattered and many of the number on New Places and no ways accommodated to entertain a Court especially with Hay & Pastoring, neither do they ever expect to be well accommodated with the Primeses as great Part of their Land is poor and clothed with shrubs the uneasiness of the People arises from the said Proposals not being for Amherst rather than Merrimack Not only as Amherst has been talked of for a Shire Town evin from Its Infancy thereby fixing the minds of the People upon it, but for its situation Nearer the Hart of the County so that many Towns can come from Home in the Morning and return Home in the

Evening that cant possibly do the like if the Court be at Merrimack, and thereby save a great deal of Charge to poor People and now S^r I beg leave to give a Description of Amherst in a few Words: It is Situate about Eight Miles from Mr Lutwytche's Ferry on Merrimack River the contents of which is about six miles Square containing about one Hundred and sixty Families and accommodated according to men of the best Judgment to settle an Hundred Families at least, more than is already settled, and near an Hundred of them good Country Farms Well accommodated with fields and Pastures and chiefly all good Husbands the Middle of the Town pleasantly situated, a good coach Road to it from the Eastward and Southern Parts of the Province and all Roads centering there The People in general knowing the situation and accommodations of Amherst to entertain the Court suppose that the General Courts proposal for Merrimack sprung from a mis-Representation.

The occasion of these lines to your Hon^r was the cries of the People and to beg leave to subscribe your humble servt.

DANIEL WILKINS.

Amherst Oct y^e 1st 1767.

P: S: S^r I must beg leave to tell your Hon^r that Mr. Willard a son of Coll Willard of Winchester and one Mr. Hall was at my House the Last Evening as agent for Keen and other towns towards the great River to desire that the Shire Town might be Amherst and likewise that there is a general uneasiness of its being at Merrimack and also Walepole as that every town save two would be greatly Discommoded if the Court was had at Walepole and not at Keen and also beg the favour of its being established at Keen as Keen will much best commode the People in General or at least that his Exelency with your Hon^r would grant them Liberty to bring Down the minds of the People.

D. : W

Vote of Monson for a Division, &c.

Province of)
New Hampshire. }

At a Legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Monson in said Province held on monday the ninth day of april 1770

Voted that Nathan Hutchinson and Will^m Nevins be a Committee to petition the Governor and Council of said Province for the following Division of the Town of Monson viz. Beginning att the northeast Corner of Monson then extending South by the Town of Merrimack two miles then dew West to the West line of said monson then North to Souhegan River then down Said River to the Bounds first mentioned to be an-

nexed to Amherst and the Remainder of said Town to Hollis.

BENJ^r KENRICK Town Clerk

Copy Attest Benj^r Kenrick Town Clerk

Petition for a Division and Annexation.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General and Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and To the Honorable his Majestys Council of said Province

The Subscribers being a Committee duly appointed by the Inhabitants of the Town of Monson in said Province to Petition your Excellency and Honors to divide said Town of Monson as hereinafterwards Expressed viz: Beginning att the North East Corner of Monson then Extending South by the Town of Merrimac two miles then dew West to the West line of said Monson then North to Souhegan River then down said River to the bounds first mentioned to be annexed to Amherst and *the Remainder* of said Town to Hollis Humbly beg leave to suggest that the Lands in and about the Center of said Monson is so very poor Barren Brooken and uneven as cannot admit of many Settlers so that those Families that are in Town are almost all planted in the Extreem parts of it We therefore conceive that if a Division were made as above mentioned the Interest and good of the people in it would be much promoted thereby Especially as we have no prospect of ever Building a Meeting House in the Center or else where any ways to accomodate us by which difficulties we think the Gosple will not be settled among us while in the present Situation we therefore pray that the above Division may be made and we as in Duty bound will pray

NATHAN HUTCHINSON

WILLIAM NEVENS.

Petition to be disannexed from Amherst.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General Governor and Commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, And the Honorable his Majestys Councill.

The Petition of the Subscribers, being Inhabitants of the Southwardly part of Amherst in said Province most Humbly sheweth.

That the town of Amherst is about nine miles in length (by reason that about half the Town of Monson was of late annexed to it) and is capable of being Divided into two Towns or Parishes, without Prejudice to or Spoiling the same; That many of the Subscribers live in that part of Amherst, which

was lately Monson, & our being annexed to said Amherst was contrary to our desire & Interest: that we are so remote from the Center of Amherst, that it is (& ever will be) with great Expence inconvenience & difficulty to us and our Families, to attend publick worship, by reason of the distance. That many of our Estates are not so valuable by reason of our being annexed to Amherst, for before that, our Situation was nigh the Centre of Monson, & on that account purchased our Land, at a dear rate, & Monson being Annihilated, our Situation (many of them) is now more inconvenient than before, unless we can obtain your Excellency's, & Honors Interposition.

Wherefore we humbly Pray, that your Excellency and Honors would set us off from said Amherst, and Invest us with Town Priviledges, by the following Bounds & lines, viz, beginning at the Southwest Corner of what was formerly Amherst, thence Northwardly by the west line of Amherst one mile and an half, Thence East untill it comes to the East line of the Town of Amherst. Thence Southwardly by said East line of Amherst untill it comes to the North line of the Town of Hollis. Thence Westwardly by the North line of the Town of Hollis, untill it comes to the North west corner thereof. Thence Northwardly, by the West line of said Amherst untill it comes to the Bound first mentioned, or Grant us any other Relief, that your Excellency & Honors, in your Wisdom & Goodness shall Judge most convenient, & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Amherst Jan'y 26th 1771.

Benjamin Hopkins
William Wallace
Benjamin Hopkins junr
Joseph Gould
John Burns junr
Ebenezer Hopkins
George Burns
Richard Gould
Caleb Jons
Thomas Towne
Abner Hutchinson
Robert Parker
William Taylor
Jonathan Button
Isaac Powers

James Hopkins
Stephen Williams
Gardner Gowen
William Jones Jr
Nathan Tuttle
Benjamin Jones
Joseph Farnum
John Burns
Jonathan Towne
Amos Whittemore
David Dunclee
Josiah Burroughs Jun
Isaac How jun
Jonathan Grimes
Bartholomew Towne

Petition of Amherst against the division of the town.

Filed Feb 4th 1771

1771 To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General Governor &c. of the Province of New Hampshire—And to the Honorable His Majesty's Council of said Province

The Subscribers Inhabitants of Amherst in said Province.

Humbly Shew that for more than twenty years last past a Number of persons living on those Lands lately known by the Name of Monson, but more lately Joined to said Amherst not having a Minister settled among them, nor accommodations sufficient for that purpose (as they said) very constantly attended the worship of God with us in said Amherst not Doing anything with us towards our Meeting House nor towards the Support of our minister except some Small private Donations made to our minister. However they Repeatedly Requested our Town to Consent to Receive them. Promising to meet at any place that the maj^r part of the People should fix to Build a House on, whereupon our Town after Repeated Sollicitashons to Receive them gave their Consent—And your Excellency & Honors some time in July last saw fit to Aggregate about one half of said Monson To said Amherst, soon after our Town Saw it necessary to Build a Meeting House and voted to Do it (our Present Meeting House being Small and insufficient for the old Town & said new Addition) the most of the People of the New Addition were present some voted in the Affirmative some in the Negative, but they began to think that the Charter Subjected them to the same Duties with us of the old Town, that they must Defrey some part of the Charge in Building and so forth and not only so but must Do something towards supporting our minister, these Reflections affected some of them very Sensibly: they had not been acquainted with anything of the kind, they were Ready to Construe it as a Degree of Persecution & the like. And to Remedy this evil they are about Petitioning to have our Town as it now lyes Divided into two Parishes which we think cannot be Done without a manifest Injury to more than three Quarters of the Town, a very considerable Quantity of Land in our Town is barron and Poor and will not admit of two Parishes: besides it lyes in Such a Situation by reason of a River & Hills that the whole of the People may more conveniently meet at one Place, the place Pitched upon than at any two Places in the Town (of which the Gentlemen that Exhibit this will inform.) we would only add that if the Town is made into two Parishes it will tend very much to the Ruin of our minis^r. Therefore pray that if such their Petition should be preferred the prayer thereof may not be granted And y^r Petitioners as in Duty bound will Pray.

Benj^r Taylor
John Davis
John Smith
Will^m Walton
Jonathan Lamson
Ephraim Hildreth
Jacob Curtice
Daniel Campbel
Benj^r Shepard

Daniel Wilkins y^r 3d
Jacob Hildreth
Isaac Weston
David Hildreth
Nathan Kendal
James Clark
John Secombe
Hez^r Lovejoy
Amos Elliot

John Burns	Josiah Kidder
John Wilkins	Ebenezer Weston
J ^{nr} Shepard Jun ^r	Sam ^l Dodge
Israel Towne	Kendal Boutwell
Enos Upton	David Williams
Enos Bradford	John Steward
Sam ^l Stuart	James Gage
Eze ^l Holt	Samuel Lamson Junr.
J ^h Cummings	John m'Clenche?
Benj ^a Ellinwood	Benj ^a Wilkins
Reuben D. Mussey	Nathan Phelps
Benjamin Clark	Francis Eliot
Stephen Peabody	Thos. Carlton
Thomas Avarel	James Hartshorn
Thomas Avarel Junr	George Wiley
Jedediah Ellinwood	Ebenezer Holt
John Hartshorn	Reuben Holt
Jacob Standly	Will ^m Steward
Isaac How	Will ^m Melendy
Eben ^e Holt Jun ^r	Tho. Wakefield
Reuben Mussey	Joseph Bouttell
Francis Lovejoy	Benj ^s Davis
Nathan Fuller	Tho ^s Clark
Amos Green	Jonathan Small
John Washer	Andrew Bixebe
Stephen Washer	Samuel McKeen
Bray Wilson	Nahum Baldwin
Amos Truel	Andrew Davis
David Truel	Elisha Felton
John Shepard	Joseph Ellinwood
Hezekiah Duncklee	James Cochren
Joseph Duncklee	Joseph Bouttel
Robert Read	Reuben Bouttel
Moses Nichols	Thomas Bouttel
Jonathan Wilkins	Amos Bouttel
Joseph Lovejoy	Jonathan Lund
J ^{nr} Averil	Simson Steward
Timothy Mackintire	Sam ^l Stearns
James Woodbury	Timothy Smith
Peter Woodbury	W ^m Odell
Joshua Abbott	John Dunckle
Acha ^l Towne	Joseph Prince
W ^m Bradford	Moses Walton
James Seetowne	John Seetown
Hugh Ross	Josiah (?) Petingill
Joseph Small	Benj ^a Kenrick
John Michell	Eben ^r Ellinwood 3d
Sam Wilkins	Eben ^r Ellinwood
Sam Lamson	Bart ^h Dodge
Asa Farnum	Thomson Maxwell
Moses Towne	Timothy Nichols
Eben ^e Ellinwood J ^r	Peter Goss
Rolandson Ellinwood	David Hartshorn
W ^m Small	William Hogg
	John Hartshorn

Vote of Amherst Relative to Monson April 10 1766.

At a Legal Meeting of the Town of Amherst in the Province of New Hampshire Held on the Tenth day of April A. D. 1766,

Voted that the following part of the Town of Monson, with the People thereon, may be annexed or joined to this Town, and enjoy all Priviledges and immunities in comon with the same viz Beginning at the Northeast Corner of said Monson from thence South by the Town of Merrymack two Miles from thence due West to the West Line of said Monson, then North to Souhegan River so called, then Down said River to the bounds first mentioned. Upon the following Condition and not otherwise, that is to say they the People of said Monson to be at the Expence of Getting the Thing Done

JOHN SHEPARD junr. Town Clerk.

Copy Attest John Shepard jun Town Clerk

*Petition of Jon. Shepard junr in behalf of Amherst
Jan 26, 1771.*

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Capt. Genl Governor &c of the Province of New Hampshire To the Honourable his Majestys Council of said Province.

The Selectmen of Amherst in the same Province. Beg leave to inform your Excellency and Hon^{rs} that a Number of those persons that Inhabit those Lands formerly Called Monson but lately joined to said Amherst have lately signified their intention of Preferring a Petition to your Excellency & Honors, in which they should pray to have said Amherst Laid into two parrishes And some of them are so Sanguine about it as to suppose the thing may be Done at first asking without Notifying the Town of it, if so it must be submitted to, but the Petitioners are Humbly of Opinion that such a procedure must be very Detrimental to by far the greater part. even more than two thirds of the People, and being bound to think that your Excellency & Hon^{rs} cannot be prevailed with to do any thing Tending to hurt the Civil and Religious Polity of any Incorporation Therefore in behalf of said Town Pray that if such their petition should be prefered as aforesaid that previous to granting the Prayer thereof The people of said Amherst may be Notified and heard thereon And your Petitioners will Pray By Desire of said Selectmen.

Dated 26th January 1771.

JOHN SHEPARD Jun Town Clerk.

Petition for a Road from Charlestown to Amherst 1773.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the same

To the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council, and to the Hon^{ble} His Majesties House of Representatives In General Assembly Convened

The Petition of Jotham Blanchard In Behalf of Himself Reuben Kidder Esq^r and Others Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners are at great Inconvenience as to roads from Charlestown (in said Province) to this Metropolis, that Your Petitioners Humbly Conceive a Road may be made from Charlestown Through the Towns of Acworth, Lemster, Campden, Monadnock number seven to that Tract of Land known by the name of Masons Proprietors Reservation, or Society Land, that the same road may be Continued to Petersborough, & Lyndsborough to Amherst where there is sufficient roads to any Part of this or the neighboring Governments, and your Petitioners Pray Your Excellency and Honours to Cause an act of said Province to be made and Passed, for the said road to be surveyed and made Passable Through said Town in the most direct manner Possible and that Your Excellency and Honours would appoint a Committee of Two or more Men Capable of surveying and making said Road at the Cost and Charge of the Proprietors that owns and Holds the Land in the said Towns, and that, should those Proprietors Refuse to pay said Cost and Charge that the Lands within said Towns may be subject to be sold in such Proportion as may pay the same or in some other way which may appear to Your Excellency and Honours to be most Conducive to the facilitating the Settlement of those New Towns which are in their Infancy as to their settlements, and Pray that Your Excellency and Honours To Take the forgoing Petition into Your Wise Consideration and Grant such Relief as Your Excellency and Honours in Your Great Wisdom shall think Best and Your Petitioners shall ever Pray.

JOTHAM BLANCHARD.

May 13th 1773.

Petition of the County of Hillsborough 1774.

Province of } Hillsborough ss
New Hampshire }

To the Hon^{ble} The Justices of His Majestys Court of General Sessions of the Peace Holden at Amherst within and for said County on the 17th Day of August A D 1773 by adjournment from the first Thursday next following the first Tuesday of July 1773—

The Petition of us the Subscribers Freeholders of the Respective Towns of Amherst, Hollis, New Ipswich, Nottingham

West, Dunstable, Litchfield, Merrymac, Bedford, Derryfield, Goffes Town, Dunbarton, Hopkinton, Weare, Mason, New Boston, Lyndsborough, Wilton, Temple, Peterborough, Boscawen, Salisbury and Hennikar all in said County which said Petitioners are Agents Legally Chosen and Constituted for the said Towns, Whereof they are Freeholders and Inhabitants

Humbly Shews That in the Month of Septem^r 1772, an action was brought by John Holland of Amherst aforesaid Yeoman (a Deputy Sheriff for said County) against one Joseph Kelley of Nottingham West in said County Gentlemen, Returnable at the then next Inferior Court of Common Pleas to be Holden at Amherst aforesaid for said County in October A D 1772 who for want of Bail was Committed to his Majesty's Goal at Amherst aforesaid That the said Inf^r Court action came on to be tryed at Oct^r Court aforesaid at Amherst, and the said Kelly then a prisener Moved by One Mr. Stephen Searles his attorney that he might either have Liberty to be present at the Tryal of that Cause and some others then and there pending wherein he the said Kelley was a party, or that said Causes might be Continued until he could be present.

Notwithstanding which their Honours the Justices of the said Inf^r Court Ordered the said Kelly to be Defaulted, and enter'd Judgment against him in favor of said Holland for the sum of £53 Lawful Money or thereabouts, Damages & Costs, and the said Kelley being confin'd in said Goal by Virtue of a Writ Issuing out of s^d Court was under the protection of the same That to call him Out without giving him the power of being present was Requiring an Impossibility and that the said Cause ought to have been Continued by the said Court officially.

That on the 14th Day of October a D 1772 said Kelly with one John Thom who was confin'd in said Goal for Debt, made their Escape out of said Goal

That this Hon^{ble} Court at their adjournment in June last upon application by s^d Holland, made a Grant to him of £53 Lawful Money or thereabouts for s^d Judgment Obtained as aforesaid as your Petitioners Humbly conceived to be paid out of the Monies of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of s^d County That s^d Kelly before the s^d 14th Day of October had nearly Effected his Escape That the Sheriff of said County accepted of a Guard (Order'd by this Hon^{ble} Court) for the greater safety of the Prisoners that he had from time to time placed a guard as your Petitioners are informed Dismissed s^d Guard on the evening of the 13th of the s^d October.

That your Petitioners are Likewise informed that s^d Kelly frequently gave out that he Intended to make his Escape on the s^d 14th Day of October.

That your Petitioners apprehend that the s^d Sheriff was very negligent of his Duty not attending the Goal himself, and suf-

fering all his Deputys & Servants to be out of Town on s^d Day.

That the Towns your Petitioners have the Honour to Represent with the lesser Ones, have very cheerfully borne the charges & Expenses of the County afores^d hitherto; which have amounted to Divers Large Sums of Money, and are still willing to bear the Necessary Charges & Expenses of s^d County and even for the Escaped aforesaid, were they not apprehensive that some unfaithfulness or undue Practice was the sole cause of said Escape.

That the good and Wholesome Laws of this Province give to M^r Holland and other Claimants other good Remedys for Recovering their Demands without Burtthening the County.

Wherefore Your Petitioners as Agents for the several Towns afores^d which make the greatest part of the County aforesaid Humbly Pray that your Honours would suffer your Petitioners to State with Evidence the *Notorious Facts* before hinted at, and be heard by Council on the Premises—And that your Hon^{rs} will be pleased to reconsider the Grant aforesaid made to s^d Holland and direct the Treasurer of s^d County not to pay the Same and be *Tinded* (?) of making further Grants on account of s^d Kelley & Thoms Escape—and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

Amherst augst 10th 1773

Benjⁿ Kennick } Committee from Amherst
Daniel Campbell }

William Nevens } Committee from Holles
Nath^l Ball }
Elnathan Blood }

Isaac How } Committee from Ipswich
Tim^r Farrar }

Abraham Page } Committee from Nottingh. West
Nehemiah Hadley }

James Blanchard } Committee from Dunstable
Jon^{as} Lovewell }
Joseph Whiting }

John Parker } Committee from Litchfield
Daniel Kendall }

Jon. Blanchard } Committee from Merrymac
John Neal }
William Alld }

James Martin Committee Man from Bedford

James McCalley Committee Derryfield

James Karn } Committee from Goff's Town
Moses Little }

Caleb Page Committee from Dunbarton

Stephen Harriman } Committee from Hopkinton
Christopher Gould }

Jon^{as} Dow } Committee from Weare
Samuel Philbrick }

Abijah Allen	}	Committee from Mason
David Blodgett		
Reuben Hosmer		
Archibald McMillan	}	Committee from New Boston
James Caldwell		
John Stephenson	}	Committee from Lyndsborough
Nath ^l Phelps		
Jon ^a Martin	}	Chosen by the Major part of the Freeholders of Wilton
William Abbott Jr		
John Cragin Jr	}	Committee from Temple
Samuel Howard		
William Smith	}	Committee from Peterborough
John Young		
Henry Gerrish	}	Committee from Boscawen
Peter Kimball		
Jonas Bowman		Committee from Hennikar
Ebenezer Webster	}	Committee for Salisbury
Joseph Bean		

Copy Attest

J. Holland.

Aug^y 18th A D 1773 at his Majestys Court of General Sessions of the Peace held by adjournment the Question was put whether the Court would Issue an order to the treasurer to revoke the former order and it passed in the Negative Ordered therefore that the petition be Dismissed.

Copy Attest J. Holland.

This Petition is Dismiss'd.

Petition relating to Monson.

To the Honorable Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd for the State of New Hampshire the second Tuesday of June 1782.

The Petition of the subscribers Humbly *Shews*

That your Petitioners Inhabitants on a tract of Land Lying between Sowhegan River and the town of Hollis (according to its first Charter) which tract was once incorporated into a Township by the name of Monson but at the time such incorporation took place, the inhabitants thereof were but few in number and unable then to Support the Charge of a town and Commonly attended public Worship at Hollis and Amherst.

That about the year 1770 a proposal was set on Foot for Monson to be devided and by new Charters annexed to the said towns, but notwithstanding the same was considerably opposed by many of the Inhabitants Both of Monson and Amherst the same has taken place and your Petitioners have been at much Public Expence in said Towns by reason of being annexed to them.

That the Contents of Monson are at least five miles Square and the Land as good as Land Generally is in this part of the Country and is now become considerably settled and increases daily in Improvement and inhabitants, and are now able to Reap the Benefit of an Incorporation if they might Obtain such a favour as they now consist of at least eighty five Families.

That your Petitioners are not unacquainted of a certain Petition's Now being before this Assembly Signed by a number of persons residing in what was formerly Monson, Join'd by a Number Living in Amherst (according to the first Charter) Praying for Certain matters as in the said Petition is Mentioned and as the Matters Contained in these Petitions are of much importance to both setts of Petitioners a Consideration of this their request Previous to a final determination of the Petition abovealuded to may Produce such a Law as will reconcile all parties and promote their Weal, Peace and Concord. Your Petitioners therefore most Humbly pray that your Honers will Take the Premises (in all its parts) under your wise Consideration and Give them Leave to bring in such a Bill as will Place the Antiant Town of Monson in its former Situation as to Boundaries, and invest them with such Priviledges and immunities as other Towns in this State hold and do Enjoye Your Petitioners can't think a Motion of this kind will be opposed by either of the Towns of Hollis or Amherst as they are large both as to extent and inhabitants, & should your Petitioners be so fortunate as to have a Bill passed in their favour as to an incorporation they will be Willing still to pay towards supporting the Gospel in the respective Towns they now belong to till they shall Maintain Preaching among themselves a very Considerable part of the time and as this Honorable Assembly can have no other thing in view but the Peace and good Order of all parts of the State they represent your Petitioners are encouraged to hope for a grant of their Request in such a way and manner as shall seem best to your Honers and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

Dated Amherst May 23d 1782.

Josiah Kidder juner
Nehemiah French
Benj^r Messer
Joseph French
Joseph Wood
Ivory Hovey
William French
Oliver Bowers
Jerathmeel Colburn
William French jr
William Patten juner
Robert Perkins
Timothy Emerson
Silas Spaulding

Jonas Shattuck
Ebner Gibson
Eleazer Usher
John Stearns
Timothy Emerson Junr.
Jonathan Lovejoy
David Duncklee
David Wallingford
Simeon Blood
John Stearns Junr
Edward Foster
Stearns Needham
Joshua Clark
John Whiting

Josiah Kidder
Daniel Kidder
Jonatⁿ Danforth
Jotham Stearns
Thomas Emerson

John Dutton
Abraham Leman
Jonathan Spaulding
William Peacock
Benjamin Emerson

We the Subscribers think the foregoing requested incorporations will be more for our and the public good than the privileges asked for in a former petition now depending before this Honorable House to which we were subscribers, and therefore humbly request that the same may be granted in preference to the matters contained in the said former petition.

STEPHEN HOW
SAMUEL HOW.

Dated May 3^d 23d 1782.

ATKINSON AND PLAISTOW.

[For a number of paper relating to these towns see *Plaistow*, on subsequent pages. Atkinson was one of the first towns incorporated under the administration of Gov. John Wentworth. The charter bears date 3d September, 1767.—ED.]

A Petition from Plaistow.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable His Majesties Council, and to the Honourable House of Representatives in Generall Court assembled &c.

the Humble Petition of us the Subscribers in Habitation of the North West Part of the town of Plaistow in s^d Province Humbly sheweth that we are so Remote from the Place of the Publick worship of God in said town of Plastow that we cannot attend the same without Great Difficulty and whereas we are very convenient to the Place of the Publick worship of God in the town of Hampstead, we therefore Humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours to take our Difficult Case under your wise Consideration and if in your wisdom you should think Proper to Set of s^d Northwest Part of s^d town of Plastow the Line to Run from the Pine in Cloughs meadow (so called) South westerly to a white oake tree near Cornet John Ingalls barn thence on the Southerly side of his Land to his Southwest Corner bounds and from thence Still South westerly to the Bridge over Providence brook near John Curriers house at Salem Line and so by Salem Line to Hampstead Line & so to the first Bounds and Annex us to the s^d town of Hampstead you will Greatly oblige your Humble Petitioners and they shall as in Duty bound Ever Pray &c.

Dated Plastow april y^e 11 : 1766.

John Kelly
Nathan Watts
Benjamin Richards Junr.
Micaiah Moriel
Joseph Brown
Joseph Chandler
John Morrill
Thomas Chaney junr.
Moses poor
Benjamin Emery

Benjamin Phillbrick
Thomas Little
John Ingalls
Reuben Mills
Ezekiel Belknap
James Little
Moses Kelly
Moses Brown
Thomas Whitaker
Moses Whitaker

Province of) In Council June 26th 1766 Read & Ordered to be Sent
New Hamp^s) down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

T. ATKINSON Junr Sec'y.

Province of) In the House of Representatives June 26th 1766.
New Hamp^s)

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on the within Petition the second Day of the siting of the General Assembly After the first Day of September next and that the Petitioners at their Own Cost Cause the Selectmen of Plastow to be Served with a copy of this Petition and order of Court that they may shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer thereof Should not be Granted

M. WEARE Clk.

In Council Eodem Die
Read & Concurr'd

T. Atkinson Junr. Secry.

To the Selectmen of the town of Plastow:—Gent^l

We the Subscribers Desire that you would Put into the warning of our Next Town meeting To See if the Town will Joyn with that Part of our Parish that Live on the South Side of the Province line to Chuse a Committee to fix a place for a meeting House To Stand that shall be most convenient for the s^d town & Parish in so Doing you'll much oblige your Humble Petitioners.

Aug 10th 1764

John Knight
Abel Merrill
William Bradly
Abel Merrill junr
John Merrill
Nath^l Knight

Benj^a Hale
Joseph Knight
Enoch Noves
Oliver Knight
Stephen Knight
Joshua Knight

It is by the Desire of Several that hav^tnt yet signed.

Request of the Inhabitants of Plaistow to the Selectmen, 1764.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Plastow, Gents.

We the Subscribers Desire that you would forthwith warn a meeting of the Inhabitants of s^d town & Put into the warning of s^d meeting to see if the Town will Joyn with that Part of our Parish that live in Haverhill & vote that the meeting House for our s^d Parish Shall Stand in the Center of the same: if not voted: 2 To see if our town will vote to Sett a meeting House in the Center of s^d town: if not voted

3 To see if the town or Parish will Chuse a committee to Place the meeting House for us according to their Discretion In so Doing you'll greatly oblige your Humble Petitioners

MOSES BELKNAP.

Sep^r 18th 1764

Tristram Knight
James Little
Ezekua^s Belknap
Moses Kelly
Stephen Dole
John Ingalls
Reuben Mills
Joshua Kelly
Benjamin Emery
John Stevens
Nath^l Watts
David Currier
Joseph Hale
Jesse Page
Benjamin Richards
Daniel Richards
Benja Richards Jun.
Benj Stone Jun^r
Aaron Copp
Robert Greenough
Rbert (?) Morrill
Joseph Knight
John Merril
Tristram Knight
Oliver Knight
John Kelly
Enoch Noyes
Benja Hale
Benj Stone
John Trusell
Jonathan Hunt
Stevens Merril
Joseph Smith

Abner Plumer
Peter Harriman
John Harriman
Moses Greenough
Joshua Knight
John Dow
Stephen Whittaker
John Morrill
Micajah Morrill
Thomas Whitaker
Stephen Knight
John Dow Jun^r
Ebenezer Knight
Richard Brown
William Brown
Samuel Little
Joseph Little
Leonard Harriman
Nehemiah Heath
Edmund Page
Thomas Whitaker
Stephen Whitaker
Benj^r Richards Jun.
John Morrill
Miciah Morrill
Jon^s Poor
Daniel Poor Jun.
Stephen Knight
Oliver Knight
Asa Page
Joseph Noyes
Samuel Little
John Dole

Petition to be set off as a Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq: Captain General and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire: To the Honourable His Majesty's Council, and the Honourable House of Representatives.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Westerly part of the Town of Plastow Sheweth, that by reason of the many & great difficulties they undergo in attending the Publick Worship of God, at the Meeting House where it now stands, through the great distance of their dwellings therefrom, and that Meeting-House is not large enough to Accomodate more than One Half of the Inhabitants of said Town—

And as it would be greatly to the Benefit of your Petitioners and prevent Strife and Discord among the Inhabitants, and also tend to the advancement of the Gospel, your Petitioners humbly request that the Westerly Half of said Town may be set off as a Distinct Town, or Parish, the Dividing Line to run as followeth, Viz. Beginning at the North East corner of Benjamin & Ebenr Hale's Land, from thence running a straight Line to the Bridge near Ebenezer Eaton's, from thence running by the Brook unto the Road near David Bryant's and from thence running by said Road unto the Province Line. Your humble Petitioners desire your Excellency and Honours to take our Case into your wise Consideration and grant us that Relief and Benefit which to your Wisdom Shall Seem meet. And your Humble Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray

Plastow May y^e 20 1766.

N. Peabody
Joseph Parker
Ebenezer Eaton
James Noyes
Mary Hale
Daniel Richards
Moses Belknap
Nath^l watts
John morrill
Micajah Morrill
Joseph hill ordway
William Brown
Joshua Emery
Jonathan Whittaker
Ebenr Hale
Tristram Knight
John French
John Dow
John Dow Jr.
Jesse Page
Benjamin Richards
Edmund Page
Thomas Whittaker
David Currier

Stephen Knight
Nathaniel Page
Ebenezer Chaplin
Joseph Page
Asa Haseltine
Joseph Noyes
John Knight
Thomas Noyes
Nath Knight
Benj^r Hale
Joseph Knight
John Merrill
Joshua Knight
Samuel Little
John Brown
Enoch Noyes
Richard Brown
Ebenezer Knight
John Knight Jr.
Oliver Knight
Stephen Dole
Moses Whittaker
Daniel Hadley

Prov^{ce} of } In Council June 26th 1766 read & ordered to be Sent
New Hamp^{sh} } down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

T. ATKINSON Junr. Secy.

Province of } In the House of Representatives June 26th 1766 The
New Hamp^{sh} } within Petition being Read and Considered

Voted That the Petitioners be heard thereon the Second Day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the first Day of September next and that the Petitioners at their Own Cost Cause the Selectmen of Plastow to be Served with a Copy of this Petition and Order of Court that they may Shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted

M. Weare Cl^k

In Council Eodem Die

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Secy.

At a Legal Town meeting Holden at the meeting house in Plastow October y^e 9, 1764 Capt. Jonathan Carlton was Chosen moderator

Then Voted That the meeting house Should Stand Where it Now is Ten years

A True Coppel Taken out of the Town Book of Records

JONATHAN KIMBALL Town Clerk

Plastow November y^e 3, 1766.

Daniel Hadley against the division of Plaistow, 1766.

To the General Court for the Province of New Hampshire I would Inform your Honours that it is very much against my mind that the town of Plastow Should Be Devided or made into two Towns or Parishes for the Petition that was Entred with your Honnors the 26 Day of June Last that I signed I was over Persuaded to sign the Constabel Promising me that if I would signe said Petition he would [wait] a Grate while one me for my Rates which I then owed to him.

Plastow December 12th 1766.

DANIEL HADLEY.

Joshua Emery against the division of Plaistow.

To the General Cort for the Province of New Hampshire: I would inform your Honnors that it is my mind that the town of Plastow should be cept to Gether as it is at this Day and the reason of my signing a pettition that I signed that was Entred in the Cort June 26 Last past was Because they told me that a part of our town was a Going to be Enexed to Hamsted which I am very much a Gainst. But I should be very willing that they that Have Signed to Go to Hamsted might have Liberty to pay their minester Rate at Hamsted for eight or ten year if it is their Desier.

JOSHUA EMERY.

Plastow Jenuery 1, 1767.

New Hampshire. In the House of Representatives Aug 26, 1767

The Petitioners being heard on this Petition and also the Objections heard and Considered.

Voted That the Prayer of the Petition be Granted and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

M. WEARE Cl^k

In Council. August 28^h 1767

Read & Concurred

T. ATKINSON Jun^r Secy.

Memorial or letter of sundry inhabitants of Haverhill to the town of Plaistow, 1767.

BRETHREXEN—though By ye Devition Line Between the provinces we were Separated from you yet By indulgence from ye masechusets we have continued to worship with you & cherfully to pay our proportion towards the maintainance of ye Gospel & after the Death of our former minister we united with you in the Settlement of another whom we Justly Esteem & Venerate and in considisation to a Number who appeared uneasy about the Situation af the meeting House we united with you in the choice of a committee & were at considerable Expence in Hopes to Give them Satisfaction. They Not Being Easy Have obtened a Devition af your Town Taking away By farr the Best Part of the Land your Numbers Being hereby Grently Deminished many of those Left Being of a Sectarien Spirit. these and many other things Being considered we cant But Earnestly Entreat that as you value the interest of Religeon you would by Every proper method seek Immediate Releaf from those who we trust will Delight to promote Both your Civill & Sacred interest. Otherwise we fear you will be So Devided that we shall be obleged to Seperate from you & seek to be united to Some other Neighbor Sosiety the most Distant tho't of which we heartily Deplore Being perfectly Satisfied with our Beloved pastor who has Devoted Himself to y^r work of y^r Gospel ministry among us & in whose ministry you & we have Enjoyed the utmost Satisfaction & Delight.

We are your sincere & affectionate well wisher.

To y^r Town clerk for plastow to be comuncate to y^e inhabitants of plastow.

Haverhill North parish Decembr 10th 1767

Benja^t Clement
Isaac Snow
Caleb Cushing
Nathanel Johnson
Mark Emerson
Nath^l Rolfe
Jonathan Eatten

William Bryant
Richard Harriman
James Russell
William Attwod
Moses Cushing.

Information from Plaistow.

To his Excellency Benning Wintworth Esq^r Govenour & and to the Honourable his majesties Councill and to the Honourable House of Representatives in generall Court assembled &c.

this is to Inform your Excellency and Honours that we the Subscribers Inhabitantce of the town of Plastow do Judge it highly Reasonable and we think it will be for the peace of s^d town of Plastow to set of our brethren at the northwest Part of s^t town and annex them to the town of Hampstead the Line to Run from the pine in Cloughs meadow (so called) South Westerly to a white oak tree near Cornit Ingalls Barn thence on the Southerly Side of his Land to his South West Corner Bounds. and from thence still South westerly to the bridge over Providence Brook near John Carriers house agreeable to their Petition as witness our hands

Dated Plastow April y^e 11 : 1766

Nicolas White
James White
Thomas Follamsbe
Abraham Chase
Nathaniel Cheney
William Follensbe
Nathaniel Bartlet
Josiah Copps
Samuel Heath
Thomas Stevens
Samuel Kimball
Thomas Chaney
Ephraim Emerson
Jonathan Eatton
Stephen Woodward
Peter Clement
Daniel Heath
Dustin Chaney

John Chaney
James Chaney
Moses Stevens
John Bradly
Joseph Harriman junr
John Heath
Abner Harriman
Moses Jackman
Benjamin Kimball
Humphery Noyes
John Hall
Aaron Copp
Jonathan Stevens
Moses Page
Daniel Whitaker
Daniel Hadley
Jacob Heath.

Joseph Page against the division of Plaistow 1767.

To the General Court for the Province of New hampsher I would inform your Honers that it is my Desier that the Town of Plastow might Be cept to Gether as it is at this Day for the Reasons of my signing a Pettition that I signed that was Entered in the General Court June 26 Last Past was Because thay told me that a Part of the Town of Plastow was a Going to Be Ennexed to the Town of Hampsted which I am very much a Gainst my Desier is that it may Be left to Gether as it is at this Day

JOSEPH PAGE.

Plastow february 16, 1767.

Ebenezer Eaton against the division of Plaistow 1767.

To the General Court for the Province of New Hampshire—

I would inform your Honours that it is my Desire that the Town of Plaistow might be cept to Gether as it is at This Day for the Reason of my signing a Pettion that was Entred in the General Court Last June was Be cause I was over Persuaded, After Consideration I se it will be Grately to the Towns Damage there fore I Desier your Honers that you would not Grant said Pettons: not the suner for my signing s' Pen But my Desier is that the Town of Plaistow may Be cept to-Gether as it is at this Day.

EBENEZER EATTON.

Plaistow March 7 1767.

Province of New Hampshire—

To the Honorable Generill Court

May it please your Honores that whereas Some time past I Signed a petition that the Town of Plaistow Might be Divided being then Misinformed this therefore is to Desier your Honores Not to take any Notice of My Name in that petition for I am of the opinion tis Best for the Town to remain as it is at present

Your Honores Humble Servant

JOSEPH PARKER.

Plaistow Aprill 13th 1767.

Petition of inhabitants of Plaistow for annexation.

Province of }
New Hampshire }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c to the Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives of said Province in General Court Assembled: the Memorial of a Number of the Inhabitants of Plaistow in said Province Humbly sheweth

That whereas by an act of the general Court Part of the Town of Plaistow lies Lately been Set off, and made a new and Distinct Parish, and whereas Several Persons included in Said New Parish Have Petitioned to be annexed to the Town of Plaistow: we the Subscribers Inhabitants of said Plaistow beg leave to inform your Excellency & Honours of the Reasons why we Pray their Petition may be granted.

We beg Leave to acquaint you that if Said New Parish does Not Contain a greater Quantity of Lands than is Left in said Town of Plaistow, as we are not Certain but it does, yet it is very well Known that the Lands in y^e former taking a just Es-

timate of Quantity and Quality together are by far more valuable than Those of the latter, upon which account we in this Town are certainly laid under very great Disadvantages. Permit us further to observe to your Excellency & Honours that near one-half if not y^e Majority of the Inhabitants of Said Plastow are either Professed Bābtists or so far favourers of them as usually to Concur with them in opposing and Counteracting every necessary Measure Respecting either the Support of our Minister or y^r Peace & good order of y^r Town so that without Some Helps, we see no Probable or even possible way in which either the one or y^r other can be Continued among us in any tolerable Degree.

We ask leave moreover to inform the Honourable Court that the North Parish in Haverhill in Massachusetts Province have hetherto ever Since our first Incorporation into a Town Shared with us in Ministerial Charges and Privileges and appear willing to Continue with us in Case the fore said Petition be granted, so that their may be a better Prospect of Peace & order in Said Plastow: whereas if we Continue in our Present weakened and Devided State we have the greatest Reason to fear they are fully Determined to Seperate from us: in Consequence of which Separation we are at once irrecoverably Deprived not only of their Proportion of y^r ministerial Tax, but Dispossessed of y^r Parsonage Buildings & land, the greatest Part by far of which lies in Said North Parish, and which we have hitherto enjoyed only by Vartue of our Connection with Them we Therefore earnestly Pray your Excellency and Honours to take the affair under Consideration and grant Such Relief for the Said Petitioners and for us as you in your wisdom Shall Think best and we as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray

Plastow Dec^r y^e 3. 1767.

John Hall
Thomas Follamsbe
Nathaniel Bartlet
Ezekiel Gile
Peter Dow
Abraham Chase
Josiah Copp
Isaac Heath
Nathaniel Smith
Daniel Gile
Benj^r Kimball
Benjamin Davis
Nathan Gile
David Carleton
John Heath
John Bradley
Moses Bartlett
John Chaney

Ephraim Emerson
Dustin Chaney
David Bryant
Nicolas White
Jonathan Kimball
Benjamin S. Pettengill
Benj Hale
Jacob Trussel
Nathaniel Knight
Joseph Knight
John Knight
Abel Mirrill
Abel Mirrill Jun
John Mirill
Humphrey Noyes
Humphrey Noyes Jun
Robert Greanough
Moses Greanough

Richard Greanough
 Ebenezer Eatton
 Aaron Coop
 James Little
 Nathaniel Peabody
 Stephen Noyes
 Jonathan Stevens Jun
 John Brown
 Samuel Little
 Nathaniel Little
 John French
 Joseph French
 Ebenezer Knight
 Joseph Knight Jun
 Joshua Knight
 Minal Chaplen
 Enoch Noyes
 James Noyes
 Robert Heath
 Joseph Noyes
 Thomas Noyes
 Caleb Noyes
 Asa Page
 James White
 Ebenezer Johnson
 Joseph Parker
 Sam. Lowell
 John Lowell
 Richard Brown
 Daniel Poor
 William Brown
 Benj Philbrek Jun.
 Ebenr Chaplen
 Joseph Poor
 Joseph Daves
 Tristram Knight
 John Knight Junr
 Jonathan Stevens
 Oliver Knight
 Elipalet Knight
 Stephen Knight
 Jonathan Whitaker
 John Dow
 John Dow Jun.
 Moses Dow
 Jonathan Page
 Daniel Page
 Benj Richards
 Daniel Richards
 Joseph Richards
 Bradley Richards
 Edmund Page
 Jesse Page
 Nath. Page
 Benj Emory
 Elmad Ingals
 John Ingals
 Joseph Hills Ordway
 Stephen Dole

John Dole
 Richard Heath
 Thomas Little
 Thomas Little Jun.
 John Kelly
 Moses Kelly
 William Kelly
 Reuben Mills
 Jonathan Eutton
 John Webster
 Israel Webster
 Daniel Poor
 David Poor
 Jeremiah Poor
 Daniel Merrill
 Moses Page
 James Page
 Joseph Page
 John Webster Jun.
 Jonathan Webster
 Timothy Page
 William Webster
 Samuel Webster
 Daniel Whittaker
 Daniel Hadley
 David Currier
 Joseph Hale
 Timothy Page Jun.
 Eb. Page
 Natha Wats
 Nath. Burpey
 Jeremiah Burpey
 John Morrill
 Micajah Morrill
 Stephen Whittker
 Moses Whittker
 Thomas Whittker
 Benj Richards Jun.
 Joseph Emerson
 Benj Philbrick
 Joseph Philbrick
 Joseph Parmer
 Thomas Chaney
 Asa Harriman
 Joseph Chandler
 Moses Poor
 Joshua Kelly
 Moses Belknap
 Ezekiel Belknap
 Jacob Page
 Mical Tinney
 John Emerson
 Joseph Little
 Joshua Emory
 Benj Emory
 James Morrill
 Timothy Ladd
 Asa Haseltine
 Currier

Thare is 130 mens Heads above sixteen in the west end of the town of Plastow.

Thare is Eighty Seven Famelys in the West of the Town of Plastow.

Petition of Sundry Persons to be Polled from Atkinson to Plastow.

Province of }
New Hampshire }

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Capt. general Governor and Commander in Cheaf in and over his Majestys Province aforesaid &c and to the Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in general Court assembled at Portsmouth

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Shews where as there has been Latly Part of Plastow set off and made a New and Seperate Parish Bounded according to Cartain Lines which goes by the Name Atkinsonton in which we with our Estates falls into v^e Said New Parish our Prayer and Request to this Honourable Court above mentioned is that whereas we have heretofore assisted in Building a meeting house a Pasonneg house and have Now a minister Settled in Plastow according to our Principles and Minds Therefore our Desier and Request is that we with our Estates may be set off from Said New Parish and be anexed to the old Parish or Town of Plastow that we might be and Remain as heretofore

we therefore Pray that your Excellency and Honours will Take The mater under Consideration and grant such Relief for those who Desier to be set off as afore said as you in your wisdom Shall Think best and we as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

Plastow Sept. 1767.

James White
Moses Greenough
Jonathan Eatton
John Webster
Israel Webster
Jonathan Webster
William Webster
Daniel Whitaker

Moses Page
Daniel Poor
Jonathan Page
John Webster j^r.
Daniel Poor Junr.
Stephen Noyse
Samuel Kimball

Province of } In the House of Representatives Sep. 24th 1767
New Hampshire } The within Petition being Read and Considered

Voted That the Petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the first Day of November next and that they serve Mr. Thomas Noyes who is appointed to call the first meeting in said Atkinson with a Copy of this Petition And Order That Objections may be made to granting the Prayer of the Petition if any there be

M. WEARE.

In Council Eodem Die

Read & Concurr'd

T. Atkinson, Secy.

Province of }
 N w Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Feb. y^a 12, 1768

The within Petition being Considered and the Parties fully heard thereon

Voted That the Petitioners James White & Samuel Kimball have liberty to Poll off they and their Estates to belong to the Town of Plastow and the other Petitioners have liberty to Poll off they & their Estates to belong to the Town of Plastow respecting Ministerial affairs only & the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

M Weare Cl^r

In Council Feb'y. 1768

The above read and the Parties being heard

Voted a Concurrence with this amendment That all the s^d Petitioners Excepting James White and Sam Kimball remain to the Town or Parish of Atkinson as tho' no petition had been preferred

Geo. King Depy Secy.

Province of }
 New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Feb 26th 1768

The above Vote of Council Read and Concur'd and the Petitioners White and Kimball have liberty to bring in a Resolve accordingly.

M. Weare, Cl^r

Memorial of Sundry Inhabitants of Plaistow against having a town set off from that, 1767.

To Excellency bening wintworth Esq^r governor and commander in cheaf in and over his madgestes Provence of new hampshire in new ingland and to the Honorable his madgesties council and to the Honourable house of Representatives in generall court assembled

To the humble Petition of us the Subscribers in Habitans of the Town of Plastow Humbly Pray your Excelency and oners to Tak our Dificelt Case under your wise considerateon and we Petioners Humbly Pray that your honners would not grant the Petition that was sent in order for a town or Parish to be taken out of the said town of Plastow the Reason why is because there is great quantity of wild Land in s^d town that is oned by other Towns People and a great quantity of wild Land oned by Said town wherefore we are no waies able to be a parish by our Selves and in So Doing you will greatly obblige your humble Petitioners and they shall as in Duty bound Ever Pray &c.

Deted Plastow february ; 13, 1767

Benjamin Philbrick
 Benjamin Emery
 Joseph Chandler
 Joseph Kimball

Joseph Palmer
 Thomas Chancy Tuner
 Moses Poore
 Wid. Mary Little

Report of a Committee of the town of Plaistow abt. this meeting house, 1766.

We the Subscribers having been Chose a Committee by the Inhabitants of the Town of Plaistow in his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and the Inhabitants of the north Parish in Haverhill in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay who Congregate with the Said Inhabitants of Plaistow to State the Place where Their meeting House Shall Stand for the Future Have attended that Service, by Viewing the Several parts of Said Town and Parish agreeable to the Desire of the Inhabitants of both, and heard the Respective Parties with Respect to the Premises: and after Serious Consideration of the affair with a train of Circumstances attending the Same too long to enumerate. Do Report that our opinion is that the most Suitable Place for the meeting House to Stand at present, is where their meeting House now Stands, being fully of the mind, That the Starting or Determining any other Place for that purpose, will be attended with worse Consequences to Said Inhabitants than that we have Reported

Plaistow Mar^{ch} 20th 1766.

THOMAS ROWELL	} Committee
SAM ^l EMERSON	
EBEN ^l STEVENS	
JOSEPH FRYE	
CLEM ^t MARCH	

To the Town Clerk of Plaistow to be Communicated to the Inhabitants of said Town at their meeting by adjournment on the first Wednesday in April next

Mar 20th, 1766

Com^{tees} Report.

Sundry Persons of Plaistow Desire to have the Town Still remain undivided.

Plaistow Decem^r 30th 1766

To the General Court of the province of New Hampshire

These are to inform your Hon^r That whereas there was two petitions Sent to the general Court the twenty sixth of June Last past in order to be considered at the next setting one to have the town Divided the other to anex a part to Hampstead, we the Subscribers Living within the Limits of s^a petitions, are Desirous that Neither of them may be granted inasmuch as we think that it will very much Damnify the town at present for we Look on ourselves and the inhabitants of this town unable at present to maintain two ministers of the Gospel but inasmuch as there is a considerable Quantity of unsettled Land in this part of the town which is chiefly own'd by men belonging to other towns we are in hopes that in a few years we may be able and in the mean time we are willing that those that have petitioned to be anexed to Hampstead should attend the Publick worship of God and have Liberty to pay their minister Rate there for the term of Eight or ten years till we are

able to be two parishes and credibly to maintain two ministers for these Reasons we Desire that things may Continue as they are at present and in granting this our Request you will greatly oblige us and we think greatly benefit this town and as bound in Duty shall ever pray.

Israel Webster
John Webster
William Webster
Daniel Whittaker
Jonathan Eatton
John Webster Jr.
Moses Page
James Page
David Poor
Jonathan Webster
Stephen Noyes

Robert Greenough
Moses Greenough
Daniel Poor Jun
Jonathan Page
Jonathan Poor
Daniel Page
Humphrey Noyes
Daniel Poor
Aaron Copp
James Little

Asa Hazeltine against the division of the town of Plaistow.

Province of } To the Hon^r General Court for Said Province.
New Hampshire }

Whereas I the Subscriber Did sine a Petetion to The General Court to Have the Town of Plastow Divided into two Towns (s^d petition bars Date June y^e 20th 1765) I was over perswaded by one of the Petitioners To Do it He Told me if we Did Not Git Divided part of the Town would Sartanly be set off to Hampstead and would spoyl the Town from Ever making Two it is not my mind Nor Never was to have the Town Divided at Present only for the above Reasons and Pray that it may be kept together

ASA HAZELTINE

Plastow Jan^y 1, 1767.

No. of People in Atkinson and Plastow.

1767 or S.

Plastow Hath 576 People

Rateble Heads 142

Rateble Land 421 Acres

Atkinson Hath 476 People

Rateble Heads 118

Rateble Land 401 Acres

Province of } In the House of Representatives February 27th 1768.
New Hampshire }

Upon Reading & Considering the Petition of James White & Samuel Kimball both of Atkinson in Said Province with Several others to have leave to Poll off from said Parish of Atkinson to the Parish or Town of Plaistow both the Polls & Estates—after fully hearing the Parties con-

cerned and duly Considering all Circumstances Resolved and Voted That two of the Petitioners Only Viz. James White and Samuel Kimball have Liberty to Poll off from said Atkinson to Plaistow aforesaid with their families & Estates both Real & Personal and shall hereafter be Estimated taken & adjudged to be part of & to belong to the said Town of Plaistow and shall be adjudged Liable & Subject to all duties Taxes and orders of Said Town as much as and in the same manner as other Inhabitants of Said Town in Proportion to their Estates Saving that their future Purchases of Real Estate shall belong to the Town or Parish where they lay

P. GILMAN Speaker

In Council March 16 1768

read & Concurred

George King Dep. Secy.

Assented to

J. WENTWORTH.

James White's Reasons for wishing to remain in the town of Plaistow.

The Subscriber for the following Reasons prays that he may not be set off from The Town of plastow

for that I have Been at a Considerable cost for the Building of the meeting house Thare and Lately In Repairing of it. That my land layes near the one half of It In haver^{ill} north parish the land where my Buildings Stands comes within about half a mile of plastow meeting house

JAMES WHITE.

List of Baptists in Plaistow. (Supposed)

Those that Profess themselves of y^e Baptist Perswation which in all Parrish affairs have appeared against y^e Peace & welfair of our minister and his society are as follows :

Joseph Flint	Joseph Welch
Daniel Emerson	John Copp
Nehemiah Heath	Moses Orway
Abner Plummer	Enoch Johnson
Jeb Eatton	John Stevens
Bartholomew Heath	Stevens Merrill
Joseph Harriman	Ebenezer Noyes
Joseph Harriman Jun.	Selvenes Noyes
James Bly	Moses Stevens Jun.
Joseph Smith	Stephen Flanders
Jonathan Smith	Samuel Welch
John Pollard	James Huse
Daniel Ayer	Samuel Dow
Simon Follansbe	John Trusel
Edmond Pilsbury	Widow Dow

The Hole of ye Inhabitance Besides the above mentioned which was Rated in y^e Last minister Rate which has Ben made are 70 Seventeen of which has ben taken Notice in Town meetings to joyn with y^e Baptists in voting 4 of which are widows & some stands as Nuters.

BARRINGTON.

[This town was incorporated 10 May, 1722.—Ed.]

A List of the original Proprietors of the Town of Barrington with the Rate which each man Paid & by which the Quantity of Acres each man had is ascertained at the rate of two Pence pr acre & also the number of Each Lot as the Same was drawn by each Prop^r or his Constituent

	THE PROPRIETORS NAMES	Acres	Rods wide	rate	
				£	s
1	Henry Keese	270	135	2	5
2	Thos Hammett	60	30		10
3	John Moor	72	36		12
4	Francis Rand	60	30		10
5	Benja Gumbelin	330	165	2	15
6	Eliezer Russell	96	48		15
7	Widow Hatch	60	30		10
8	Edward Cater	120	60	1	
9	Wm White	60	45		15
10	Royd Rogers	300	180	3	
11	Matias Libby	120	60	1	
12	Sarah Allcock	210	105	1	15
13	Jno Roberts	210	105	1	15
14	Saml Hart	180	90	1	10
15	Jno Shackford	210	105	1	15
16	Joseph Holmes	150	75	1	5
17	Wm Warren	60	30		10
18	Jno Shores	60	30		10
19					
20	Doctr Balew	96	48		15 (2)
21	Wm Brigham	96	48		15
22	Agnis Russell	30	15		5
23	Thos Phelps	300	150	2	10
24	Richd Wilder	600	300	5	10
25	Thos Westbrook	300	150	2	10
26	Wm Cotton Junr.	120	60	1	
27	Peter Greeley	120	60	1	
28	Ephm Denmet	360	180	3	
29	Widow Hanking	108	54		18
30	Hen Sherrburn Jun	96	48		15
31	Wm Lowde	192	96	1	12
32	Zoo Paristel	414	207	3	9
33	Joseph Moses	72	36		12
34	Benja Langley	96	48		15
35	Jno Savage	72	36		12
36	Robert Armstrong	240	120	2	
37	Bishop	72	36		12
38	Joseph Pitman	72	36		12
39	Thos Cotton	90	45		15
40	Thos Barnes	96	48		15
41	Nicht Kennard	180	90	1	10
42	Wm Knight	330	165	2	15
43	Jno Clark	84	42		14
44	Thos Landell	120	60	1	
45	Ed Pendexter	96	48		16
46	Jho Lear	108	54		18
47	Jthos Furber	72	36		12
48	Stephen Greenleaf	120	60	1	
49	Stephen Lang	120	60	1	
50	Rhcl Cutt	72	36		12
51	Wlow Walker	48	24		8
52	Wlow Jackson	90	45		15
53	Wm Braden	72	36		12
54	Wlow Tapley	120	60	1	
55	Benj Akerman	120	60	1	
56	Sua Hinks	72	36		12

	PROPRIETORS NAMES	Acres	Rods wide	Rate	
				L	S
57	Henry Sloop	276	138	2	6
58	Thomas Sisson	189	90	1	10
59	Thos Main	72	36		12
60	Thos Crockett	78	39		13
61	James S. Hiney	120	60	1	
62	Edward Cote	120	60	1	
63	Richd Waterhouse	180	90	1	10
64	Richd Cross	120	60	1	
65	Thomas Ayre	150	75	1	5
66	Reuben Abbott	72	36		12
67	Capt Wm Cotten	150	75	1	5
68	Jno Brewster	150	75	1	5
69	Jno Hooper	90	30		10
70	Joshua Clark	120	60	1	
71	Wm Amoss	72	36		12
72	Jno Hill	96	48		10
73	Edward Tabor	144	72	1	4
74	Saml Hewitt	108	54		18
75	Alex Permet	180	90	1	10
76	Mathew Nelson	150	75	1	5
77	Nathl Tuckerman	132	66	1	2
78	Tim Davis	96	48		16
79	Jonathan Steedly	120	60	1	
80	Geo Bonhill	84	42		14
81	Ed Phillips	54	27		9
82	Jno Deverson	72	36		12
83	Joseph Fennin	90	45		15
84	Alfred Libby	72	36		12
85	Saml Bartfield	180	90	1	10
86	Charles Brown	54	27		9
87	Thos Greeley	72	36		12
88	Wm Parter	240	120	2	
89	Samuel Cobb	240	120	2	
90	Jno Leary	120	60	1	1
91	Tina Waterhouse	150	75	1	5
92	Henry Beck	72	36		12
93	Saml Ham	156	78	1	6
94	Abraham Barnes	60	30		10
95	Widow Annary	30	15		5
96	Jno Roberson	144	72	1	4
97	Anthony Row Junr.	72	36		12
98	Geo Walker	72	36		12
99	Edward Cote Jun.	150	75	1	5
100	Joseph Miller	90	45		15
101	Richd Walfron	240	120	1	10
102	Thos Harvey	150	75	1	5
103	Saml S. Jordan	120	60	1	
104	Walter Warren	120	60	1	
105	Wm Cross	72	36		12
106	Jos Alcock	108	54	1	8
107	Thos Beck	90	45		15
108	Jacob Lavis	72	36		12
109	Caleb Grafton	50	25		5
110	Jno Churchill	90	45		10
111	Docter Pile	240	120	2	
112	Amos Sloop	180	90	1	10
113	Jos Moulton	138	69	1	3
114	Abm Jones	150	75	1	5
115	Thos Beck Junr	78	39		13
116	Abm Bartlett	72	36		12
117	Mich Whilden	240	120	1	15
118	James Mezes	90	45		15
119	Jno Abbott	84	42		14
120	Thos Moore	72	36		12
121	Wm Frost	72	36		12
122	Wm Lewis	90	45		15
123	Jno Savage	150	75	1	5
124	Jno Peveck Jun.	96	48		16
125	Solomon Cotten	72	36		12
126	William Hunking	30	15		5

	PROPRIETORS NAMES	Acres	Rods wide	rate	
				4	8
127	Saml Shackford	210	165	1	15
128	Jno Cotton	144	72	1	4
129	Doctor Ross	96	48		16
130	Jno Ham	48	24		8
131	Nichl Whidden Jr	84	42		14
132	Saml Brewster	96	48		15
133	Jno Davis	129	65	1	
134	Jno Libby	144	72	1	4
135	Roger Swain	84	42		14
136	Wm v Briard	24	18		6
137	Jno Almay	129	65	1	
138	Tobias Langdon	210	129	2	
139	Reind Elliot	96	48		16
140	Ben Pickford	96	48		16
141	Obadiah Morse	48	24		8
142	Nathl Osborne	168	84		18
143	Geo Jaffrey	60	30	5	
144	Matthew James	129	65	1	
145	Joe Sharn	334	177	2	19
146	Jno Jones	192	66	1	2
147	Jno Grindal	72	36		12
148	Nathl Feveryly	60	45		15
149	Thos Packer	648	324	5	8
150	James Jeffrey	240	120	2	
151	Jer. Neal	40	45		15
152	David Gardner	120	60	1	
153	Nathl Lang	120	60	1	
154	Philip Gannon	36	18		6
155	Peter Ball	120	60	1	
156	Joshua Peirce	720	360	6	
157	Jno Hooker	96	48		16
158	Thos Sharnburn	48	48		16
159	Zac Leach	96	45		15
160	Nichl Bashley	144	72	1	4
161	Nichl Tobey	144	72	1	4
162	Widow Marshall	40	45		15
163	Jno Cutt	150	75	1	5
164	Moses Caverly	120	60	1	
165	Jno Merrill	64	33		11
166	Jno Hardeison	180	90	1	10
167	Saml Pethallow	720	360	6	
168	Reind Jose	120	60	1	
169	Wm Fairweather	72	36		12
170	Ephm Jackson	168	84	1	8
171	Colo Hunking	210	105	1	13
172	Widow Martin	120	60	1	
173	Wm Feveryly	120	60	1	
174	Benjt. Lucy	96	48		16
175	Robert Almay	96	48		16
176	Gov. Wentworth	720	360	6	
177	Cha Randall (1)	60	30		10
178	Alex Roberts	180	90	1	10
179	Capt. Geo Walker	360	150	2	10
180	Saml Pitman	90	45		15
181	Geo Townsend	108	54		18
182	Saml Suel	36	18		6
183	Saml Waterhouse	24	12		4
184	Jno Sparks	72	36		12
185	Jno Davis	60	45		15
186	Jno Cross	30	15		5
187	Benjt. Cross	210	105	1	15
188	Nathl Mondam	240	120	2	
189	Robert Pickering	72	36		10
190	Arch Macphadrin	690	360	5	
191	Moses Paul	216	105	1	13
192	Jno Bradford	96	48		16
193	Neenamah Partridge	72	36		12
194	Peter Moore	84	42		14
195	Thos Wilkinson	60	30		10
196	Philip Babb	72	36		12

(1) First lot 3d. range.

	PROPRIETORS NAMES	Acres	Rods wide	Rate	
				£	s
199	Benja Cotten	90	45		15
200	Jos Buss	96	48		16
201	Saml Winkley	240	120	2	
202	Benja Miller	120	60	1	
203	James Pitman	60	30		15
204	Christr Noble	96	48		16
205	Thos Wright	150	75	1	5
206	R Lert Ward	96	48		10
207	Widow Pitman & Son Jabez	30	15		5
208	Jno Ford	72	36		10
209	George Peirce	240	105	1	15
210	Cole Vaughan	240	120	2	
211	Wm Cotten	240	105	1	15
212	Wm Barnes	72	36		12
213	Richd Swain	72	36		12
214	Jno Cowel	84	42		14
215	Wm Buss	72	36		12
216	James Sherburn	90	45		15
217	Jno Sherburn	120	60	1	
218	Nathl Melner	72	36		12
219	Thos Peirce	240	105	1	15
220	Peter Abbot	60	30		10
221	Jno E.monds	84	42		14
222	Thos Walden	150	75	1	5
223	Heads Sherburn	182	96	1	12
224	Alex Miller	180	90	1	10
225	Anthony Roe	60	30		10
226	Capt. Tobias Langdon	300	150	2	10
227	Ezek Pitman	120	60	1	
228	James Steotly	30	15		5
229	Clent Hughes	180	90	1	10
230	Jno Drew	120	60	1	
231	Jos Berry	60	30		10
232	Jacob Tash	96	48		15
233	Daniel Quick	96	48		16
234	Jer Laby	180	90	1	10
235	Jno Preston	120	60	1	
236	Wm Fellows	240	120	2	
237	Saml Brown	72	36		12
238	Jno Pray	138	69	1	3
239	Capt Hen Sherburn	552	276	4	12
240	Jno Peverly	96	48		16
241	Wm Terret	24	12		4
242	Jno Sellings	96	48		10
243	Rebel Sauridge	108	54		12
244	Ed Ayers	240	120	1	15
245	Saml Mason	120	60	1	
246	Daniel Jackson	72	36		12
247	Nath Robertson	60	30		10
248	Moses Ingraham	120	60	1	
249	James Leach	90	45		15
250	Jona Partridge	72	36		12
251	Jno Sherburn's widow	24	12		4
252	Ed Wells	120	60	1	
253	Stepa Noble	90	45		12
254	Steph Noble	60	30		10
255	Wm Bennet	120	60	1	
256	Hen Seaward	120	60	1	
257	Thos Lauraby	120	60	1	
258	Nathl Fellows	72	36		12
259	Mary Moore Ails Leach	30	15		5
260	Geo Ayers	96	48		16
261	Arch Hunking	72	36		12
262	Hugh Battill	108	54		18
263	Amos Funnell	150	75	1	5
264	Abraham Dent	6	3		1
265	Saml Rhymes	96	48		16
266	Saml Clark	132	66	1	2
267	Widow Nelson & Son	150	75	1	5
270	Francis Ditty	60	30		10

	PROPRIETORS NAMES	Acres	Rods wide	rate	
				£	s
271	Jo: Mead	103	54	1	18
272	Is: Collings	60	30		10
273	Joseph Sib-on	120	60		
274	Laz Noble	60	30		10
275	Laz Holmes	42	21		7
276	Abraham Center	96	48		16
277	Jer Calf	72	36		12
19	Not drawn				
178	Not drawn				
179	Not drawn				
242	Not drawn				
244	Not drawn				

No 38: 39: 142: 143: 234: 235 are the Northernmost rights in the six ranges of the Town of Barrington & 1: 83: 89: 189: 190 with 277 are near if not the most Southern Lots of said town.

Petition for power to raise money, &c.

Province of)
New Hamp.)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and
Commander In Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of
New Hampshire in New England the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's
Council and House of Representatives for Said Province in
General Court Convened

The Humble Petition of Thomas Wright Mercht & Daniel Jackson Shop keeper both of Portsmouth in said Province being the Surviving Agents of the Proprietors of the Township of Barrington in the Province aforesaid Shews—

That: the Laws of this Province Respecting Proprieties of Townships or other Common & undivided Lands are very Defective & Insufficient in many Regards to Enable the Proprietors as a Distinct Body from the Inhabitants of the Towns where they Live to Transact & carry on the Business of Such Proprieties But in Particular with respect to the Speedy Collecting & levying Such Sums of Money as have at any time been Granted & Voted by the Propriety which very much Clogs & Embarrasses their affairs & Greatly Retards the Settlement of New Town ships and thereby in a Great Measure Defeats the Good Purposes of Granting Such Townships Since there is no making a Settlement without raising money and many Persons get in to be Proprietors who will not Voluntarily pay their proportion of the Charges

That: the Proprietors of the Said Township of Barrington are Involved in the same Difficulties of other Proprieties in the aforesaid Regards and in Special with Respect to that Important Article of Raising Money having Several Sums in

Arrearage which tho' they have assessed & apportioned upon the Proprietors are not paid in but Either Remain uncollected or are in the Constables hands and that thro' a Deficiency of the Laws upon which the Propriety is formed.

Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of their principals most Humbly Pray that an act may be now past to Enable the Collector or Constable of the Said Propriety to Collect & Levy their arrearages in the same Summary way the Constables of Towns may do and give the said Proprietors the same Remedy against their Delinquent Collectors or Constables and also to make Effectual Provision for Raising & Levying money upon themselves for the future in such an Expeditionous method as the nature of their affairs Require & Your Petitioners as in duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c

March 4th 1741

THOMAS WRIGHT
DAN JACKSON

In the House of Representatives March the 12th 1741. the within Petition Read and

Resolved That the Prayer of the Petition be so far granted. That for the future, the Proprietors be Enabled to make Notes & Raise m^y on themselves and that the Collectors & Constables be enabled to gather the same, and that the Proprietors shall have the same Remedy against their delinquent Collectors & Constables as other Towns have and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffrey Clerk

In Council March 20th 1741

The above Vote read & Concurred

Theod Atkinson Secy.

March 22

Assented to.

B. WENTWORTH

Petition of Thomas Shepard.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire. The Honorable his Majestys Council and house of Representatives in General Assembly convened—

The Petition of Thomas Shepherd in Behalf of himself and the other Inhabitants of the Two mile Streak (so called) in the Township of Barrington in said Province most humbly shews That there are sixteen families settled within the said Two mile Streak, containing upwards of ninety Persons in all That the Situation of the Same is such that the Inhabitants are very much exposed unto the Indian Enemy

That the summer past the laboring People there were obliged to leave their wives and children at home naked & defenceless whilst they went out about their business of husbandry having no Soldiers there to guard and protect them

That they are in great fear that the Indians will destroy some of them the approaching Spring and Summer, if they tarry there, unless the Government Allows them Some Protection. That in Case the said Inhabitants move in, it will give the Enemy an advantage besides that thereby your Petitioners Plantation where they raise Considerable Provision will lay unimproved

Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours to take their Case under Consideration and to allow them such a number of Soldiers & for such time as you shall judge reasonable, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

Feb^r 23^d 1747

THOMAS SHEPHERD.

In Council March 5th 1747.

read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House.

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Petition of John Macmath & Thos. Shepard.

May it please y^r Excellance wee make bould To Trouble y^r Excellance & y^r honourable Council taking into Consideration our Dangerous Conlition of our Enimys the Want of what men you shall think proper to Steate One the two Garresons at Twomill Streik In Barrington being Oblidged to Leave our Wemen & Children Exposed in Said houses Otherwise our Cropes must Suffer Our Dependence Is On y^r Excellance & that you will Not lett us be any longer in Such a Condition being the Needfull and are ever y^r Excellances humb^l Servants

J. W. MACMATH

THO^s SHEEPHARD

Two Mill Streak

In Barrington

Jan the 15 1747.

Petition of Selectmen of Barrington, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief of his majestys Province of New Hampshire &c &c

Barrington Feb. 10th 1762

Sir

Whereas The Town of Barrington has for Some years past paid a Considerable Province Tax and has upwards of 120 Poles in it, which we humbly hope Intittles us to ask the favour That we may Chuse one Assembly man to Represent Said Town in y^r General assembly

Therefore Pray your Excellency would Vouchsafe to Grant the Town of Barrington a Liberty to Chuse such a Representative to appear for us in y^e General assembly of this Province: Which favour we shall see duely Esteem and as in Duty Bound ever pray for the Supporters of our Priviledge

JOHN GARLAND }
ELEAZER YOUNG } Selectmen.
W^m CATE }

PAUL HAYES
JOHN HAYES
HEZEKIAH HAYES
MARK HUNKING
FRANCIS WINKLEY Jun

Portsmouth Feb. 19th 1762

Upon the within Petition I have thought it for His Majestys Service to Incert in the Kings writ the Town of Barrington which please to fill up that they thereby may send a precept to the Select men in time to make Choice of a proper person to represent them in the next General assembly

I am Sir Your hum Servt

B. WENTWORTH

To the Hon^{ble} The Atkinson Esq

At our Annual Town meeting held at The meeting house In Barrington on Wednes-day The 25th day of march 1770 our Petition Relating to Parish orders has Been Notified and Read in Said meeting.

Barrington March the 29th 1770.

James Marden

Town Clerk.

At a Town meeting held at the meeting house in Barrington on Thursday The first Day of march 1770 according to Notification Then Voted Deacon John Garland & Lieutenant Samuel Brewster as a Committee or agents to Petition The General Court for Parsh Powers to Transact our affairs Relating to a minister Seprate from other affairs of The Town and from other Societies Now Subsisting in Town

Barrington, March the 19th, 1770.

Attest James Marden

town Clerk

Garland & Brewster's Petition in behalf of the town of Barrington. March 1770.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r. Governor & Commander in Chief in & over the Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened. March 22 1770

The Humble Petition of John Garland and Samuel Brewster both of Barrington in said Province as agents for Barrington aforesaid Shews

That there are in said Town a number of the Inhabitants who call themselves Quakers a number who are Separatists from all Denominations of Christians and also a number of members of the Church of England besides the Common Denomi-

nation called Congregationalists. That there is no settled minister of that order nor any other in said Town at Present but frequently Lay Teachers come there and Encourage Separations & Divisions and as they all belong to the Town whenever there is a Town meeting to consider of Settling a minister as the Law of the Province Directs, they all attend & Sometimes out Vote the others & Introduce the greatest disorder & Confusion

Wherefore Your Petitioners humbly Pray that they whose sentiments are in the Congregational way & such others as will join them may be erected into a Parish & Authorized to Transact all affairs relating to Settling & maintaining a Minister of the Gospel & other affairs relative thereto according to Law by themselves exclusive of all others who will not join with them as members of the Same Parish or Society and that they may have leave to bring in a bill accordingly and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray &c

JOHN GARLAND
SAMUEL BREWSTER

Province of }
New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives March 22^d 1770

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on Friday the thirtieth Day of March Instant if the General Assembly be then Sitting and if not Then on the Second Day of their sitting next after And that they Cause the Substance of the Petition and Order to be Posted up at the Meeting house in said Barrington and if a Town meeting Shall be held in said Town before that Day then the same to be read at said meeting that any person may Shew Cause why the prayer thereof Should not be Granted

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council eodem Die

Read & Concurred

Geo. King D. Sec

Province of }
New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives March 30, 1770

The Petitioners being heard on this Petition and no Objection made by any Person and the Prayer of the Petition appearing to be Reasonable

Voted That the Prayer of the Petition be Granted and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council Apr. 12, 1770

Read & Concurred

Geo King D. Sec

BEDFORD.

[This town was granted by Massachusetts in 1733, and continued under the government of that Province until 1741. It was first called Narraganset, No. 5, afterwards Souhegan East. It was incorporated by the name of Bedford, 19 May, 1750.—Ed.]

Souhegan People's Petition for aid, &c.

(Now Bedford.)

Souhegan East June 12 1744

We the Inhabitants of Souhegan East Apprehending our selves Exposed to Imminent Danger both from the French & Indian Enemy's & being in no capacity to make a proper Stand in case of an assault from do constitute & appoint Mr. John Chamberlin our Delegate requesting him in y^e capacity with all possible speed to repair to Portsmouth & to represent our Deplorable case to his Excellency our Governor and y^e general assembly and request of them such aids both in respect of men & military stores as to their great wisdom may seem meet and which may put us in a capacity to repel all attempts of our s^d enemies

John Riddel
John Riddel Jr.
Forge Kenn^d
Hugh Riddel
Richard McAllister
James Kinnock
John McDugel
Moses Barron
James Moor
John Burns
John Toms
James Moor
John Morehead
Eleazer Lyon
John Roby
John Carr
Thomas Vickere
Thomas Vickere Sen

Sam^l Woods
James Walker
Benjamin Kidder
William Patterson
John Moor
Robert Gilmore
Thomas Chandler
Samuel Patten
Matthew Patten
Jonathan Lyon
John Orr
James Linn
John Durgee
Alex^r Walker
William Calwell
Jas Little
John Patten
Robert Walker

*A List of the names of the families of the Inhabitants of
Souhegan East upon Merrimack River.*

Timothy Corlis
John More
Robert Gillemore
Robert Little
John Goffe
William Pateson
Thomas Chandler
John Blare
Benjamin Smith Jun
John MacDugel
James Walker

Samuel Woods
Ephraim Bushnel
Thomas Worthley
Levi Moses Barns
Thomas Vickers
Elizer Lion
Robert Gilmore
John Robe
Thomas Farmer
Thomas Farmer Jun
Benjamin Smith

John Taylor
 Cap. John Chamberlin
 Canada
 John Tom
 Morehead
 William Patison Jun
 James More Jun
 Thomas Barn
 James More
 James Mathews
 Benjamin Smith third
 John Orr
 Joseph Canada
 John Quig
 John Burns

Gorn (?) Ridle
 Wid MacQuade
 Robert Walker
 Hugh Ridle
 Forges Canada
 John Ridle
 Jonathan Lion
 James Little
 James Lynn
 Alexander Walker
 John Bell
 Samuel Patten
 Matthew Patten Jr.
 Kiders family.

To Inable the Inhabitants on a Tract of Land on the West Side of Merrimack River, to raise a reasonable Tax for the Support of a Minister of the Gospel &c & to make choice of fit persons to collect the Same

It is ordered by His Excellency with the advice of His Majestys Council That on ——— day of April next Capt John Goffe holds the first Town meeting giving Ten days Notice thereof to the Inhabitants.

Petition of Presbyterians in Bedford.

To His Excell'y Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor & Commander In Chief of His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and to the Honourable His Majestys Council assembled at Portsmouth
 May y^a 10th 1750.

The Humble Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of Souhegan East so called *Sheweth*

That your Petitioners are the Major part of sd. Souhegan that your Petitioners as to our particular persuasion in Christianity are Generally of the Presbyterian Denomination That your petitioners through a variety of Causes having been Long Destitute of the Gospel are now Desirous of taking the proper steps in Order to have it Settled among us in the way of Discipline which we judge to tend most to our Edification That your Petitioners not being incorporated by Civill authority are in no Capacity to Raise those Sums of money which may be needfull in order to our proceeding in the above Important affair.

May it therefore Please your Excell'y & Hon^{rs} to take the Case of your Petitioners under Consideration and to Incorporate us into a town or Destrict or in Case any part of our Inhabitants should be taken off By any Neighbouring Destrict to Grant that those of our persuasion who are Desirous of Adhering to us may be Notwithstanding Excused from supporting any other Parish Charge than where they Consciencously

adhere we Desiring the Same Liberty to those within our Bounds if any yet be and yo^r Petitiⁿ shall Ever Pray &c

Samuel Miller
William Moor
John Riddell
Thomas Vickere
Matthew Little
James Moor
John Tom
James Kennedy
Robert Gilmor
Richard McAllister
John Moor
Thomas Chamb'rl'n
John McDugle
Samuel Patten
Alex^r Walker
Gan (?) Ridel
Ben Smith
John Goffe
John Orr
John Morehead
James Little

Robert Gilmor sen.
James Mathis
Forges Kennedy
John McLaughlin
William Kennedy
Forgious Kennedy
David Thomond
James McNight
Hugh Riddel
John Burns
Daniel Moor
James Moore
Gerard Rowell
John Clark
James Walker
John McQuige
Robert Walker
John Beil
Patrick Taggart
Matthew Patten
John McLaughlin Sen^r

These are to certifie that we the above Subscribers Do Commission John Goffe Esq^r and Mr. samuel patten to present this petition in order to obtaine Incorporation for us according to their Instructions from us the subscribers

JAMES LITTLE, Cleark.

Daited May the 10th 1750

Bedford Petition for the revival of their propriety.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Gov^r &c.
The Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council And house of Represe^{ves}
in General assembly Convened at Portsmouth the thirteenth day of July 1756

The Inhabitants of the town of Bedford in the province of New Hampshire Most Humbly Sheweth

That the proprietors of Narragansett Township No. 5 Alias Bedford and part of Merrymac have not had a prop^r meeting for several years and that the Clerk of said propriety has been Dead some space of time and there is no Comitee in the propriety to Call proprietors meetings The Consequence whereof tends much to your petitioners Damage

That there was Land Reserved by the prop^r in their Survey of the said town for highways and inasmuch as roads Cannot be made on all the said land so reserved we are obliged to Lay out roads Elsewhere and for want of a prop^r meeting Legally Called, The power of Disposal of said reserved land Cannot be given to the town which if it were we might change with

those persons who have their land Cut with town roads who ought to have a proper Satisfaction for their lands so taken and would thereby prevent the towns paying a Considerable of money yearly

Wherefore we pray that your Excellency and hon^{rs} would take the premises in Consideration and Grant us an order to Call a prop^{rs} meeting of Narragansett Township N^o five and your petitioners shall ever pray

MATH^w PATTEN

by a vote of the town.

In Council July 15 1756

read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House

Theodore Atkinson Secy

This Petition being read ordered that it be Dismissed

A. Clarksen Clerk

Bedford Petition for a tax on their land.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Govr. &c. The Hon^l his Majesties Council And house of Represent^{rs} in General assembly Convend at Portsmouth the thirteenth day of July 1756

The Inhabitants of the town of Bedford in the province of New Hampshire would most humbly Remonstrate That the fewness in number of our Inhabitants with the Expences which Necessarily arises for us to pay and the Deficultys attending the performing the settlement of a new Town That a large Quantity of the town Lying unsettled and vacant of any Inhabitants and have Rec^d no help to Defraying any of our Necessary Charges from the proprietors of any such unsettled land. for the space of twelve or fourteen years in which term we (being a Fronteer) Endured the hardship of the late Indian war for which Reasons your Petitioners is rendered very unable to Carrie on the building a house for the publick Worship of God or a house for the use of the ministry in said town

Wherefore we humbly pray that your Excellency and hon^{rs} would take our case in Consideration, and Grant us a tax on all the land in the town (Exclusive of Ministry Ministerial School and highway Lands) for the term of two years at sixpence pr. acre Each year or so much as you in your wisdoms Shall think Sufficient for the purposes aforesaid and your petitioners shall ever pray

MATTHEW PATTEN Agent for the town

In Council July 15th 1736.

read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House
Theod Atkinson Secy

Province of) In the House of Representatives July 15th 1736
New Hamps)

The above Petition being read

Ordered That the Petitioner be heard thereon y^e 2^d Day of the Sitting of the General assembly next after the 1st day of sept next Ensueing & Yt in y^e meantime y^e petitioner at his own Cost & Charge Cause this order of Court with the Substance of s^d Petition to be advertised in some publick print for three weeks successively

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council July 15 1736

The within vote read & Concurred

Theod Atkinson Secy

Province of) In the House of Representatives Dec^r 16, 1736
New Hamps)

This Petition being read

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted, & that the petitioner have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

Andrew Clarkson Clk.

In Council Eodem Die

read & concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Petition of James Caldwell.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Captain General Governor & Commander In Chief In & over his Majesty's province of New Hampshire the Hon^{bles} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives In General Assembly Conv^d the 30th day of Nov^r 1763

The Petition of James Caldwell of Bedford In said province Humbly Shews that your petitioner being one of the Selectmen of Said Town for the year 1762 together with Mr. John Goffe & Mr. James Lions did agreeable to their usual form & Custom & agreeable to Law (for calling Town meeting) put up a notification for calling the free holders & other Inhabitants of said Town together at the usual place for Chusing selectmen Constable & other Town officers for said Town as the Law Directed, agreeable thereto the Inhabitants of said Bedford met and at said meeting made choice of M^r Jn Bell to be their Moderator & then proceeded to the Choice of the Select men & other Town officers, when the Moderator Declared that by the Votes Brought In they had made choice of Mr. James Little. Mr. Sam^l Pattin & your petitioner for their Select men & Mr. Richard M Allester as Constable for Said Town to Collect the Taxes, so it hapned that at said meeting there was no Justice present to sware s^d officers & no Refusal from any one of them

at that time that they would not serve, but since it so happens by some misunderstanding or other that Mr Sam^l Pattin who was Chosen as a Select man refuses, as well the Constable Mr. Richard M Allester they calling it an Illegal meeting for what Reason is best known to themselves, as your petitioner is Quite Ignorant of any Illegality & your petitioner with Mr. James Little another of the Selectmen of said Town (being Ignorant of the Law in such Cases) did put up one other notification for calling a meeting In Said Town for Chusing Town Officers which meeting was held on the 24 ultimo when other officers were chosen in their stead, but by our charter we find we can hold no town meeting, Only on the last Wednesday of March for choice of Town officers which we did agreeable to said Charter & the several officers was Chosen as before mentioned, & expecting they would take the oaths as usual, the Moderator Dissolved the meeting by which means we are not able to Call any Town meeting for this Year Chusing proper officers to Levy & Collect the province Tax laid on said town of Bedford & if not Leevy'd & Collected this present year, the Burthen the next would then of Consequence be double the sum its this year, which would make it very difficult. Wherefore your petitioner Humbly prays the aid of this honorable Court touching the premises, & that you'd be pleased to Grant such Releif as you in your great wisdom Shall think proper & your petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c

JAMES CALDWELL

In Council December 1 1763 read & sent down to the Hon^{ble} assembly
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of)
New Hamps) In the house of Representatives Decr. 1, 1763.

This petition being Read Voted that the prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioner have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerks

In Council Eodem Die read & Concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Assented to B. WENTWORTH.

*Petition of the Selectmen & Committee of Safety of
Bedford.*

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety of the State of
New Hampshire.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Selectmen and Committee of Safety for the Town of Bedford in the County of Hillsborough in said state Humbly shews That your Petitioners are

Informed that Mr John Houston of said Bedford Intends to make application to your Honours to have Liberty to Take the oath of Fidelity to the State—to serve a Secular Interest as we apprehend we Humbly Pray that you would Defer His Taking it or giving him any Recommendation in his Favour as being Friendly to the Cause of America untill the Town of Bedford shall be Notified to appear at a Convenient Time as you Shall think Proper to shew cause why he ought not to be admitted to said oath which we Conceive They are Capable to do and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever Pray

THOMAS BOICE	} Selectmen
JAMES VOSE	
WILLIAM WHITE	

Bedford, Sep^r ye 24th 1778

We the Subscribers appoint Capt. Samuel Patten to Present this our Petition

JAMES CALDWELL	} Committee of Safety
SAM ^l PATTEN	
JOHN GOFFE	
SAM ^l VOSE	
JOHN BELL	

BENNINGTON.

[This town is in Vermont. It was granted by Governor Benning Wentworth, 3d January, 1749, and from him derived its name. ED.]

Mr. Sam^l Robinson's petition, Dec^r 9th, 1763.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in chief in & over the Province of New Hampshire The Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened, Decemb^r 8th 1763

The Humble Petition of Samuel Robinson of Bennington in said Province Esq^r as agent for & in behalf of the Inhabitants of said town Shews

That there are about fifty Families Settled in Said Town and a minister of the Gospel settled among them, and the said Town is in a Good forwardness & Prosperous condition considering the time of the Grant and the distance from other Settlements,

That the burden of Supporting the usual Town Charges is heavy upon new Settlements especially till they have the necessary Public Buildings finished and the Building a Convenient Meeting House for Public Worship and a Convenient School house is at present too Great a Charge for the said Inhab-

itants but as those houses being built & duly Improved greatly Encourages Settlers & raises the Value of the Lands Your Petition^r humbly Prays That they may be authorized to lay a Tax for a Limited time on the Lands in said Township for so much annually and for such a time as will be Sufficient to defray the Charge of Building such a Meeting house & School house within said Township and they will ever Pray &c

SAM^l ROBINSON

In Council December 8th 1763

Read & Sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Province of) In the house of Representatives Dec^r 9th 1763

New Hamp^s) This petition being read.

Voted That the petitioner be heard thereon the second day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the first day of Feby next & that he Cause the substance of this petition & order of Court thereon to be advertised three weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazette that any persons concerned may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

A Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun. Secy

BOSCAWEN.

[This town was granted by Massachusetts, and was called Contoocook, until incorporated by New Hampshire, 22 April 1760. ED.]

Petition of Contoocook, Penacook and Canterbury for protection from the Indians. 1747.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General and Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp^s To the Honorable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened the twelfth Day of November 1747

The petition of Phineas Stevens. (1) Ebenezer Eastman and Jeremiah Clough in Behalf of themselves and the Inhabitants of Contoocook. Pennycook and Canterbury, in said Province, most humbly shews

That the said Places are frontiers and lay open and exposed unto the French and Indian Enemy. That they are not able to protect and defend themselves in Case of a Vigorous attack from the Enemy which they have Reason to fear may be the Case as soon as there Shall be Snow Sufficient to travel with Snow Shoes That unless they are protected, the Inhabitants Will be under a Necessity to break up and leave their habitations and so Consequently the frontier will be bro't nearer.

(1) He was the first minister of Boscawen. ED.

That your Petitioners humbly conceive it will be much better for the Province to have those Places Protected than to have them broke up. Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours to take this Petition under your wise Consideration and be pleased to Grant such a number of men for each of the before mentioned Places and for such time as to your Excellency and Honours shall seem meet and reasonable and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

PHINEAS STEVENS
EBENEZER EASTMAN
JEREMIAH CLOUGH

In Council Nov 12th 1747 read & sent down to the Hon^{ble} House.
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Contoocook Petition for aid.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General & Governor in chief in and over his Majestic's Province of New Hampshire In New England

The Petetion of y^e Inhabitants of a Plantation called Contoocook in y^e sd. province of New Hampshire Humbly Showeth

That where as your Humble Petitenrs being Certainly Informed of a Declaration of war Between y^e King of England and France and Therefore Looking upon our selves as Exposed contennally to y^e attacks of y^e Indians who are subjects or allies to y^e King of France and we would Beg Leave Humbly to Lay our Case before your Excellency

May it Pleas your Excelency we have Been at Great Expence and Labour in Bringing to y^e settlements in y^e plantation so far as thay are att this time by setteling a gospel minister erecting Houses subduing Lands and Bringing too a cosidable Quantity of Wilderness and in erecting proper Fortifications for Defence in case of an Indain war one of which was Built in y^e year 1739 a building of considerable Expence to y^e proprietors and of great consequence to y^e Inhabitants being 100 feet square and all this to advance y^e Kingdom of Christ in the world and farther to enlarge and advance his majestie's Dominions in the american continent we have Like wise been att great expence and cost in erecting houses to Dwell in and in moving from our habitations the most of us into sd Fort in order for our security till proper help shall arive to us for want of which many persons have Removed and more are Removing from us to the Great Discouragement of those that tarry behind and all tho we might Defend our selves in our Fortification yet we cant support our selves becaus we have

none to gard us in our Business and more over the commanding officer in the place has so far neglected the people that they are very uneasy he never having called them to Gether since he Recd his commission Refusing to Repair to the fort or to tak any care of it or the people in it never seting any watch or ward so that the Inhabitants are without a Leader yet they have consantly Kept a watch and ward in said fort or gareson Those with many others are the Difecultys we Labor under two many to be hear enumerated of which we Humbly Beg Redres of your Excellency in such way and maner as your Excellency in wisdom shall think Best and your Humble petitions as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

Contoocook June y^s 5th 1744

Richard Flood
Richard Jackman
John Cowin
Joseph Easman
John Fowler
Andrew Bohonan
Jacob Flanders
Daniel Rolfe

William Emery
Moses Burbank
Samuel Emery.
Nathaniel Meloon
Ezekiel Flanders
Josiah Bishop
Jorge Jackman

Petition from Sundry Persons at Contoocook, Praying for military officers.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq

Honored S^r we the Subscribers Being Souldiers of Contoocook Do Humbly Desire your Excellency to Grant to M^r John Rollins of said town a Captains Commission and Likewise a Let^r & Insins Commishon to two other men of said town whome he the said Rollins shall nominate the Perform-
ance whereof will Grately oblige your Humbel and Dutifull Sarvants

Contoocook November y^s 29th 1743

Jacob Flanders
Ambrus Goold
Josiah Bishop
Enos Bishop
John Ellet
Thomas Cook
Benmore Dudy
Thomas Estman
Nathanel Danford
William Corser
Jesse Flanders
Thomas Manuel
William Degiden
John Boin
Jacob Flanders Junior
John Fowler

Edward Fitchgaull
John Flanders
Moses Call
Sinkler Been
Daniel Rolf
Ezekiel Flanders
Richard Flood
John Johnson
Willian Peters
Andrew Bohonan
David Barker
William Danford
John Call
Nathanel Maloon
Sam^l Emmerly
William Emmerly

Contoocook Petition for a land Tax for support of a minister.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire To the Honorable His majestys Council & House of Representatives in General assembly Convened the twelfth day of November 1747

The Petition of the Proprietors of the Plantation calld Contoocook in the Province of New Hampshire most humbly Sheweth—That your Petitioners have had a minister of the Gospel Settled among them for about the space of seven years That notwithstanding the Difficulties arising from the War he hitherto has continued at said Plantation and would still continue there if supported and maintained by the Proprietors That for want of a Law to enable and Impower the said Proprietors to Raise money and Collect the same for the support of the ministers there The Burden thereof lyeth on a few Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency and Honours. That by a special act they may be authorized and Impowerd thereunto and that not only the Lands of the Residents but also of the non Resident Proprietors may be rated towards the support of the Ministry there for such time and in such Proportion as shall be judged reasonable by your Excellency and Honours and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

JOSEPH COFFIN, for and in behalf of the Committee of Said Proprietors.

Nov 13th 1747 In Council

read & concurred orderd to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House
Theodore Atkinson secy

Petition for Authority to Collect Taxes.

Province of)
New Hampshire)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over said Province And To the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General Court now Assembled

The Petition of us the subscribers Humbly Sheweth that the Proprietors of the Town of Boscawen have at their meeting from time to time Voted sums of money as they thought needful to carry on their publick affairs & particularly a sum of money to purchase a Right of land in said Town of Boscawen for the Encouragement of the settling a gospel Minister in the Town The Right have been purchased and given to the

Rev. Mr. Robie Morrill The money have been Assessed and such original Right was proportionately Taxed And now for want of Legal power to Collect said money some part of said proprietors (notwithstanding their forwardness in voteing said money) neglects or Refuses to pay their Equal part thereof & for want of said money's being Collected and paid in there is an action in Law Commenced against said proprietors in order to recover said money which is greatly to the prejudice and Damage of the rest of said proprietors whoe have paid their ful part of said money & tends greatly to hinder the propagation and Settlement of the Town Therefore We Humbly pray your Excellency & Honours to Invest said proprietors with ful power & legal authority to Collect what money hath already been or Shall hereafter be voted by said proprietors for their use by makeing sale of the Delinquent proprietors Land or in any other way your Excellency & Hon^r in your great Wisdom Shall think best and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Dated Boscawen august 24th 1765

GEORGE JACKMAN Jun) Com^{rs} for said
THOMAS CARTER) Proprietors.

Province of)
New Hamps) In the House of Representatives Sep^r 9th 1767

The within Petition being Considered

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on their Petition the third day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the fiftenth day of October next and that the Petitioners at their own Cost Cause the Substance of y^e Petition and order of Court to be printed three weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazett and Boston Gazett That any Person may appear and Shew Cause why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council Septem^r 11th 1767 Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun Secy

Province of)
New Hamps) In the House of Representatives Feb. y^r 19th 1768

The within Petition being Considered and appearing Reasonable and no Objection made against it

Voted That the Petitioners have liberty to Bring in a Bill to answer the Prayer of the Petition

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council Feb. 24th 1768

Read & concurred

Geor King Dep Sec.

Petition for a Justice of the Peace.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire

Whereas the Town of Boscawen in said Province has ever since it's first Settlement been destitute of a Commissionated Justice of the Peace, Such an officer being often needed (more especially since our Late favourable Incorporation by your Excellency) we the Subscribers & Inhabitants of said Town Pray Your Excellency to Commissionate Mr. George Jackman Jun^r of said Town to be Justice of the Peace he having deserved well for several years Last past in the acceptable discharge of public Trust to him Committed And your Petitioners Shall as in Duty bound ever Pray

Boscawen January 29th 1766

Ezra Carter
Petitioner tho' not an Inhabitant of Boscawen
Moses Foster
Petitioner tho' not an Inhabitant of Boscawen
John Fowler
Thomas Carter

John Webster
John Flanders
William Emery
John Coser
Thomas Corser
Eph^m Woodbury
Jesse Flanders
Stephen Cali

BOW.

[Bow was incorporated 20 May 1727, by New Hampshire.—Ed.]

Bow Remonstrance against Rumford Petition, 1749.

Province of)
New Hamp)

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esq Capt. General Governour & Comander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province afores^d & To the Hon^{ble} his Majtys Council for said Province

Humbly shew the Selectmen of the Township of Bow in the Province aforesaid in behalf of the said Town & the Proprietors thereof that they have been Informed that a Petition is Preferred to your Excelency & Hon^{ble} Desiring therein that the Inhabitants on a Tract of Land called Pennycook may be Incorporated and Infranchized with Town Priviledges &c & that the bounds mentioned in the said Petition (as your Petitioners are Informed) makes great Infringement on Land belonging to & within the Charter of the s^d Town of Bow Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that the said Petition from the People at Pennycook may not be granted as asked for and that the

Proprietors of Bow may have opportunity to shew to your Excellency & Hon^{rs} The unreasonableness of the said Petition and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray &c

GEORGE VENSEYGUR (?) } Selectmen
ABRAM TILTON } of Bow.

february y^o 7th Day 1749-50

Perambulation of the town lines of Bow.

The perambulation of the Lines of the town of Bow as surveyed by me the Subscriber on or about the year 1749. I began at the Reputed Bound of the town of Chichester at the head of Nottingham & from thence Run north west four miles to the head of Epsom then there marked a maple tree with the word Bow & Sundry Letters and from said tree which I Called the East Corner of said Bow I Run north west four miles to the west Corner of Chichester y^e north east one mile to Canterbury South corner then north west five miles on said Canterbury y^e South west nine miles which Runs to North west of Rattle Snake hill and most of the pond that Lays on the north west side of said hill and said Line Crosses Hopkinton Road so called and takes part of said town in then we marked a tree & Run South East five miles and marked a tree y^e one mile South west then South East four miles y^e north East nine miles to where we began

WALTER BRYANT

P. S. I Crossed marrimack River within two mile of Canterbury Line an found all the Inhabitance to the South of Canterbury & East Marrimack which are in Rumford to be in Bow

Petition of the Town of Bow, 1753.

Province of)
New Hamp)

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over sd Province and to the Honourable his Majesties Council & House of Representatives of the aforesd Province now convened in General assembly at Portsmouth in said Province as they stand Prorogued to the 30th Day of October A. D. 1753

We the Subscribers Humbly Beg leave to inform your Excellency and Honours that att a meeting of the Free holders and Inhabitants of the town of Bow in sd Province held the 25th Day of July last past pursuant to a special act of this General Assembly for the calling sd meeting we were chosen Selectmen for sd. town for this currant year: And that since that time we have Received two Severall warrants from this Province Treasurer the first Dated May 30th 1753 and the other Dated the 26th Day of July 1753 by the first of which we are commanded in his Majesties name to assess the Sum of sixty Pounds on Said Inhabitants and by the other the sum of thirty

one Pounds four Shillings. And tho' we are Ready, (and that with cheerfulness) To obey Every order of government yet that we are at a loss as to the Boundaries of sd. Bow and consequently Dont Know who the Inhabitants are that we are to assess sd sums upon, that the Prop^s of Bow in Running out the Bounds of sd town have as we conceive altered their Bounds several times, and further that one of those Gent^l that purchased Capt. Tufston Masons Right to the Lands in sd Province has given it as his opinion that sd Prop^s have not as yet Run out the Bounds of sd town agreeable to their charter But that their South East side line should be carried up about three quarters of a mile further toward the northwest and there is lately (by his order) a fence erected a long some miles near about sd place Designed (as we suppose) as a Division Fence between sd Bow and land yet claimed by s^d Purchasers and that on the other hand the Inhabitants of Penycook formerly Erected into a District by a special act of the General Assembly of this Province (Tho they object nothing against submitting to order of Government) Refuse to give us An Invoice of their Estates (That is such of them as we have asked for the same) alledging that they Dont lay in Bow and that this sd assembly did as good as declare in sd District act So that upon The whole we humbly conceive (unless the pleasure of this Court is first made known Relating to the aforesd. affairs) that should we proceed to assess the afores^d sums on such as we may have concei^d are the Inhabitants of sd Bow that many would Refuse to pay the Sums that should be so assessed on them and consequently that we should be thrown into so many Law suits as would in all probability Ruine us as to our Estates. Therefore we humbly crave that your Excellency & Honours would take the afores^d affairs under your wise and mature consideration and fix the Boundaries of sd Bow or otherwise give us such directions as you shall think proper and so submitting the whole affair to your Excellency & Honours to do as you in your great wisdom shall think fit not doubting that you will give us such directions as if followed by us we may obey the commands laid on us by this court without the lest detriment to ourselves

And your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray

Bow Octob^r y^e 26th 1753

MOSES FOSTER	} Selectmen
JOHN COFFIN	
RICHARD EASMAN	
DAVID ABBOT	
WILLIAM MOOR	

Prov. N. Hamp. Jan'y 10th 1754

In Council read & concurred & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble assembly

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of }
New Hamps } In the house of Representatives January the 12 1754

Voted that the Petitioners be heard on the within Petition on the Thirty first Day of January Instant if the General assembly be then Sitting if not then on the third Day of the Sitting of the General assembly next after the first Day of february next and that the Petitioners at their own Cost serve Moses Leavitt Esqr Clerk of the Proprietors of Bow with a Copy of this Petition & of the Orders thereon that the s^d Proprietors of Bow if they see Cause may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer of the Petition should not be Granted

Matthew Livermore Clerk

In Council July 12th 1754

read & concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of }
New Hamps } In the House of Representatives feby 20th 1754

One of the Selectmen of Bow bringing This Petition into the House and suggesting that there had not been convenient opportunity to serve the Clerk of the Propriety of Bow with a Copy of the Petition &c. & praying that the Petitioners might have a further time appointed for being heard

Voted that the Petitioners be heard on their Petition on Friday next if the General assembly be then sitting if not then on the third day of the sitting of the General assembly next after & that they serve the Select men of the Proprietors of Bow with a Copy of this Petition & of the order thereon that y^{rs} s^d Proprietors of Bow if they see Cause may appear & shew Cause if any they have why the prayer of the Petition^{rs} should not be granted

Matthew Livermore Clerk

Eodem Die,

In Council read & concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Warrant from the Treasurer of the Province. 1753.

Province of) To the selectmen of Bow in the Province of New Hamp^r
New Hamps } for the Current year of our Lord (1753)

Pursuant to acts of General assembly of said Province pass'd in the Current year of his Majesties Reign, namely "To an act entitled an act for granting unto his most Excellent Majesty a Tax upon the Polls & Estates within this Province for raising the sum of twelve Thousand five hundred pounds new Tenor for the ends & purposes in this act mentioned and to an act entitled an act for a new proportion of the Province Tax. to each Town & Parish within this Province of New Hamp^r hereafter mentioned."—

You are therefore in his Majesty's name hereby required by an equal & impartial assessment, to raise & levy upon the Polls & Estates (Rateable by law) within said Bow, the sum of sixty pounds in new tenor Bills of Credit, on this Government, and Commit a list thereof to the Constable or Constables of said Bow; Requiring & directing the said Constable or Constables to Collect & pay the said sum in said Bills of

Credit to the Treasurer of said Province for the time being, on, or before, the last day of December next (viz) 1753. You are also Required some time before the last day of December aforesaid, to make a Return, to the said Treasurer, of the name or names, of the said Constable, or Constables, to whom you shall committ said List & the sum or sums, by him or them, Respectively to be paid, as aforesaid.

Dated at Portsmouth, this thirtieth day of May, in the twenty sixth year of his Majesty's Reign Annoque Domini 1753

Geo. Jaffrey Treasr

Warrant to the Selectmen of Bow, 1753

Province of)
New Hamp }

To the Selectmen of Bow in the Province of New Hampshire :

Pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of said Province pass'd in the eighteenth year of his Majesty's Reign Entitl'd "An act for granting to his most Excellent Majesty the sum of thirteen thousand pounds for promoting an Expedition against Louisbourg, and for putting his Majesty's Province in the best posture of Defence in the present war—" You are therefore in his Majesty's name hereby required, to make an equal & impartial assessment on all Polls & Estates, Rateable by law, within said Bow, amounting to the sum of Thirty one pounds four shillings, Bills of Credit, Emitt'd by virtue of said act, and Committ a list thereof to the Constable or Constables of said Bow, requiring and Directing the said Constable or Constables, to Collect & Receive from the Inhabitants of said Bow their Respective assessments of said sum, the payment whereof may be made by said Inhabitants (if they see fit) in said bills of Credit, according to their Several Denominations, or in coined Silver at six shillings & eight pence pr ounce Troy weight of Sterling alloy, or in Coin'd Gold at four pounds eighteen shillings pr ounce, or in the following sorts & species of Goods, being of the produce or manufactures of s^d Province at the price to each sort & specie herein Respectively affixed (namely)

Merchand ^s Hemp per ct.	£ 2: 15
Winter & first fare Isle Sable Cod fish per qtl	" 15
Barr Iron per cw ^t	2 "
Barley pr. Bushell	" 4
Indian Corn pr Bushell	" 4
Beef per. lb.	" 0: 3
Merch ^s white pine Boards per M	2: 5
Beeswax pr. lb.	1: 6
Pitch pr Barrell	1: 5
Bay berry wax pr. lb	1: 3
Tar br Barrell	1
Flax per lb	1
Rye pr Bushell	: 5:
Wheat pr Bushell	: 6:
Peas per Bushell	: 8:
Pork per lb.	4
	£
Joyst pr M	2 (?)
White oak 2 inch plank pr M	8: 0: 0
Y ^e same proportion for thick	
Turpentine per Barrell	1: 10
Tannd sole leather per lb.	1: 6

You are also to Require the said Constable or Constables to Collect

and pay the said Assessments unto the Treasurer of said Province for the time being, by the Twenty fifth day of December next ensuing the Date thereof and sometime before the said 25th day of December, make a Return to said Treasurer of the name or names of the Constable, or Constables, to whom you shall Commit a List of said assessments, and the sum or sums by him or them Respectively to be paid as aforesaid—

Dated at Portsmouth the 26th day of July in the Twenty seventh year of his Majesty's Reign annoque Domini 1753

Geo Jaffrey Treas^r

Petition of the Agents of Bow for Loan of Money, 1754.

Province of) July 25th 1754.
New Hamp)

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capn. Gen^l
Governor & Comander in Chieff in & over his majestys
Province of N. Hampshire afores^d The Honble his majty
Council & the General assembly of sd. Province

Humbly Sheweth Clem^t March Daniel Pierce & Zebulon Giddings as agents to & in behalf of the Proprietors of the Township of Bow in said Province That the s^d Proprietors Comenced an action of ejectment against one Merrill for the recovery of about Eight acres of Land Lying within the said Township of Bow that the said action was carryd thro' the Law here that your memorialist recovered judgment at the Superior Court of Judicature here on the review That the said Merrill had complained to his majty in Council of his haveing been deny^d an appeal from the said Judgement upon the review that his Majty in Council was Pleased to order a hearing of the said action before him in Council sometime in the month of October next at which time The said Proprietors are order'd to appear &c and as the Getting of Sterling money either by way of Bills of Exchange or silver is at Present very Difficult if to be obtained from Private Persons they Humbly Pray that they may obtain a Vote of the Governour Council and assembly for Lending of one hundred Pounds Sterling money to Defend their Title to the said land and they are ready to give such security to repay The same as The General assembly shall Please to order or accept of and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray

CLEM^t MARCH } Agents
ZEBⁿ GIDDINGS } for Bow
D. PEIRCE. }

Prov. N. Hamps.

In Council July 25th 1754

read & ordered to be sent Down to the Honble the Gen^l Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Secy

*Vote for lending £100 Sterling to the Proprietors of
Bow, 1754.*

Province of)
New Hamp) In the House of Representatives July 25 1754

Whereas Clement March Esqr. Daniel Peirce Esqr and Mr. Zebulon Giddings as agents for the Proprietors of Bow have Petitioned the Gen^l assembly of this Province to lend them the sum of one hundred Pounds Sterling money to enable them to carry on a suit before his Majesty in Council, now depending there between one Merrill and the s^d Proprietors and signified in their Petition that they are ready to give such security for the Repayment thereof as the Gen^l assembly shall please to order Therefore Voted That Theodore Atkinson Richard Wibird and Meshech Weare Esqs and Mr. Henry Sherburne Junr. be and hereby are appointed a Committee they or the major Part of them to draw a Bill in favour of the s^d Petitioners on John Thomlinson Esqr. agent for this Province at the Court of Great Britain for the sum of one hundred Pounds Sterling of the Interest in the hands of the sd. John Thomlinson Esqr belonging to this Government and that the s^d Clement March Daniel Peirce and Zebulon Giddings Give security unto the s^d Committee for the payment of the sum of three hundred pounds Bills of credit now Ten^{ts} on this Province within one year from the date of sd Bill to be by them drawn as afores^d with six p^{ct} Interest in like Bills and that the sd. Committee put the s^d Principal and Interest when rec^d into the Treasury of this Province taking a Receipt for the same and that the same be burnt to ashes in the face of the Gen^l assembly in order to sink so much of the Bills of Credit of this Province, emitted for carrying on y^e Intended Expedition against Canada
Matthew Livermore Clerk

In Council July 25th 1754

The foregoing vote read & concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy

In Council July 25th

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

An act relating to Bow.

Province of)
New Hampshire) Anno Regni Regis Georgii Secundi Magnae Brit-
taniae Franciae et Hiberniae Vicessimio nono.

An Act For assessing and Collecting the Province Tax due from the Town of Bow within said Province

Whereas the General Assembly of this Province have Proportioned the Province Tax for the several Towns Districts and Parishes in this Province to pay as was thought most Just and Reasonable into the Province Treasury for several years past and have Directed the Province Treasurer from time to time to Issue his warrants Directed to the Selectmen of the said Towns, Districts & Parishes to Assess their respective Towns, Districts and Parishes according to said act and the Laws and usage of this Province in such Cases and the said Selectmen to make out warrants to the Constables of such Towns Districts and Parishes to Collect the same as usual in the Province & pay the same into the Province Treasury to answer the several ends & purposes for which the said Taxes were Granted—But notwithstanding the care of the General Assembly in Providing a Supply for the Treasury in Season The Town

of Bow in said Province have endeavoured to prevent the assessing and Collecting the Taxes aforesaid by neglecting or refusing duly to Elect Select men Assessors & Constables or Collectors to assess and collect their proportion of the Province Taxes aforesaid and when the General assembly made a special act for calling a Town meeting and choosing Town officers in said Town of Bow in the year 1755 The said Town in Contempt of the Law and in Defiance of the Government Refused to meet at the time and place appointed by authority as aforesaid: By means whereof No officers were chosen and no Taxes are assessed in said Town of Bow nor have been for several years past and the Treasury of the Province Destitute of that just proportion of the Taxes which the said Town of Bow ought to pay into the Province Treasury:— For Remedy whereof and for the speedy assessing Collecting and paying into the Public Treasury of said Province the sum and sums which the said Town of Bow ought to pay into the same;

Be it enacted By his Excellency the Governour Council and Assembly That Ezra Carter & Moses Foster Esqrs and John Chandler Gentleman all of said Bow they or the Major part of them Be assessors to assess the Polls and Estates within the said Town of Bow as the Bounds and Limits of said Township were Run by Walter Bryant Surveyor in the year 1749 in a just and equal Proportion Agreeable to y^e Laws & usage of this Province, The sum of Five Hundred and eighty Pounds and sixteen Shillings New Tenor Bills of Public Credit of this Province being the sum ordered to be paid by them into the said Treasury and in order to the said assessors obtaining the Best account of the Polls and Estates in said Town of Bow & to their making a just proportion according to their Best skill and Judgment—The said assessors or the major part of them are hereby directed to Post up Notifications in some public place or places within the said Town of Bow Ten days before they proceed to make the Said assessment that all persons may have opportunity if they think fit to give a True list or Inventory of their Polls and Rateable estate within said Town to said assessors which if they or any of them shall neglect or refuse to do within that time the said assessors or major Part of them are hereby Impowered and directed to doom such Person or Persons in such sum and sums as the said assessors or major part of them shall Judge they ought to pay as their Proportion of the said Tax & of the Cost arising in about and concerning the assessing Collecting & Paying the Same which the said assessors or major part of them are hereby Directed and Impowered to assess in Proportion to and with the said Tax or assessment and the said assessors are hereby Directed to be sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their office & Speedily to proceed in and make the said Tax or assessment with a Sufficient overplus for costs and abatements and Deliver Lists of said Rates or Tax with proper warrants to the Collectors hereafter named within this act and certify the sums in each respective list to y^e Treasurer of said Province within two months next ensuing and the said assessors in their warrants are to Direct the said Collectors to Collect and pay in unto the Province Treasurer the aforesaid Sum of five hundred and Eighty Pounds & Sixteen Shillings New Tenor Bills of said Province at or before the Last day of December next and account with the said assessors for y^e overplus (if any be) and the said assessors to report their doings herein to the Gen^l Assembly as soon as may be

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That Timothy Walker and John Noyes both of said Town of Bow shall be and hereby are appointed the Collectors of said Tax or assessment and that they Collect and pay in the sum & sums in their respective lists in time and manner aforesaid on Penalty of forfeiting and paying into the Province Treasury for his Majesty's use the sum in their respective lists men-

tioned And in collecting the same & any part thereof The said Collectors are hereby Authorized to use and exercise all y^r Powers and Authorities in the Law Given to Constables in this Province for their Collecting y^r Publick Taxes and if any of said Collectors meet with any opposition in y^r executing their office or if the persons rated or any of them shall secrete their Goods and chattels or use any means to prevent the Collecting of this Tax in manner afore-said it shall be Lawfull for such Collectors respectively to sue the person or Persons so refusing before any Justice of the Peace in Said Province and any Justice of the Peace shall & may hear & Determine the same give Judgment therein & award Execution thereon in which no *essoyn* Protection or wager of Law shall be allowed & no other Evidence Necessary than the list of rates under the hands of said assessors or major part of them to Convict & y^r oath of y^r Collector that the same has been Demanded four days & not paid and which Demand may be made by asking the same of the Person or Leaving an acco't of the sum of each respective Persons rate in such list at the usual place of the Abode of y^r Person rated four Days before any Distress or Suit made for y^r same in manner afore-said

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid that if the said assessors shall neglect or refuse to Do their Duty in making said Rate or Tax and refusing their acc't of the same as aforesaid That Province Treasurer is hereby authorized required and Directed to issue his Warrant of Distress Directed to The Sheriff of said Province his under Sheriff or deputy to Levy said sum of Five hundred and eighty Pounds sixteen shillings upon the Goods, Chattels or Lands of said assessors & in want thereof on their bodies & y^r Sheriff under Sheriff or Deputy is hereby authorized Impowered and directed to execute the same accordingly and pay y^r said sums into the Treasury

And be it further enacted by the authority afore-said, that if any Person giving in to y^r said Assessors a list or Inventory of their rateable Polls or Estates shall be guilty in the Judgement of the said Assessors or Major part of them of giving in a false list or Inventory of the Rateable Polls & Estate the said Assessors or Major part of them are hereby Impowered and Directed to add to the Rate of Such Person as a fine not exceeding twenty shillings to be collected with said Rate or Tax for and towards Defraying y^r charges attending the same which fine shall be over and above what the said assessors shall think reasonable to Doom such persons as their Proportion to said Rates and for the service of the said assessors in Doing their Duty as in this act is required they & Each of them, shall be entitled to have and receive out of what they shall so assess the sum of seven Pounds & Ten shillings New Tenor each of them and each of the said Collectors to be allowed out of said assessment by them to be Collected the sum of fifteen Pounds New Tenor each of them for such their Service; and to prevent any Inconveniency by said Town of Bow their not choosing Town officers for several years past. Be it enacted, by the authority aforesaid that the said assessors or major part of them are hereby Impowered and Directed to Notifie the Free holders and Inhabitants of said Town of Bow Qualified according to Law to Vote in Town affairs to meet at such time and place in said Town of Bow as they shall order and direct some time in y^r month of March next in the year 1756 to choose selectmen Constables & all other Town officers & to pass any vote or vote as they Lawfully might at any town meeting regularly warned and their votes acts & choice of officers Shall be as good & effectual in Law to all intents & purposes as if they had not neglected to choose officers in times past.

Pursuant to an act of the Gen^l Court of the Province of New Hamp^r I the Subscriber Warned a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Bow for the choice of Town Officers and attended the same as Moderator at the Place and time appointed for said meeting which was y^e 22d of April last but there was but one Inhabitant of said Bow that attended the Place and time of meeting by which means no Town Officers are chosen for the present year to assess the said Inhabitants their proportion to the Province Tax agreeable to Law

JON^s LOVEWELL

Portsmouth May y^e 25th 1755.

Petition for a new survey of Lots.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Gov^r & Commander in Chief in & over his majes^s Prov. of New Hamp
The Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives
for sd Prov. in Gen^l Assembly convened Jan. the first day
1757

The Humble Petition of Daniel Pierce Esq^r Tho^s Wiggins & Daniel Marston Gent^l Will^m Pottle Blacksmith & Benjⁿ Norris Yeoman as a Committee of the Prop^{rs} of y^e Town of Bow in s^d Province Shews That there are many Persons who claim a Right to Lands in Said Township by Titles not derived from s^d Proprietors & some who have made considerable Improvements there with whom the said Proprietors have had many expensive Suits at Law which has much impeded the settlement of said Township—That many of the said claimers & settlers particularly those who hold under the Proprietors of Suncook (so called) are desirous (as they say) of an accommodation & settlement of these Disputes & to become not only Inhabitants of said Bow but to hold their Title under that of s^d Bow & no more to call it into Question which the Proprietors of Bow are as desirous to have effected & have taken many steps to that Purpose being sensible that these Disputes will finally prove more detrimental to themselves if ended by y^e Law tho' in their Favour than any reasonable Concessions That notwithstanding the amicable & peaceable Dispositions of y^e Parties concern'd there are Impediments which prevent the good effects that might be expected to result from such a temper which however willing they are not able to remove which your Petitioners beg Leave shortly to represent. That the Home Lots or first Division in s^d Township of Bow which were laid out for forty acres each by some mistake fall short as to some of them which contain not much more than half that Quantity and y^e lots laid out by the Prop^{rs} of Suncook run across these obliquely so that one of these interferes with several of these in many Places That by this means one

Person has to agree with several for his particular Lot & some of those are minors with whom no valid agreement can be made & the Proprietors of Bow are willing those who have made any considerable Improvements there (tho' they have done it in Judgment of Law in their own wrong) should enjoy the Fruit of their Labour That quieting the Possessors (who have improved as afores^d) on equitable Terms will tend much to promote the Settlement of said Township raise y^e Value of the Land & save the great Expense which inevitably attends Contention which desirable end cannot be obtained by any way that your Petitioners can discover unless the laying out of some of sd. Home Lots by the Prop^r of Bow should be annulld & vacated which seems to be necessary to do Justice to some of the owners by reason of the mistake aforesaid as well as for the other Ends before proposed

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that the laying out of the said Lots the Return & Record thereof as done by y^e said Proprietors of Bow (or so many of them as may be necessary for y^e ends aforesaid) may be entirely annulled, & vacated that your Petitioners or some others may be enabled to lay out other unimproved Lands in said Township sufficient to be a just equivalent to the owners of s^d Home Lots under the said Proprietors That the Land so laid out for said Home Lots may be taken, deemed & adjudged as common Land so far as relates to them or those claiming under them that they may be authorized to dispose thereof as they might have done if it had not been by them laid out as aforesaid in order for the proposed accommodation & agreement or so far as is Necessary to answer y^e desirable Ends proposed and that your Petitioners may have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly and they shall as in Duty bound ever pray &c

BENJⁿ NORRIS

D. PIERCE

WILLIAM POTTLE

THOMAS WIGGIN

DANIEL MARSTON.

In Council July 6, 1757

read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Province of) In the House of Representatives Jan 7, 1757.
New Hamps) The within Petition being Read

Ordered that the Petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the Sitting of the Gen^l Assembly next after the first Day of February Next & That the Petitioners at their own Cost & Charge cause the substance of this Petition with this order of court thereon to be published in the New Hamp^r Gazette two weeks successively that any Person or Persons may appear at said Hearing & shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die

read & concurred

Theodore Atkinson Sec.

Province of)
New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Feb 3^d 1757

This petition being read & its appearing that the order of Court had been Comply'd with. No person appearing against said Petition, & Bow Committee the petitioners being fully heard thereon therefore

Voted That the prayer of the petition be granted & that the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die

Read & Concurred

R. Wibbird Secy.

Inventory of Bow and Canterbury 1761.

An Invoice of the Polls, Stocks and improved Lands in the Township of Bow, (1) taken by us the Subscribers according to the best of our knowledge

Polls	154	Cattle 3 years old	85
Houses	91	Do 2 years old	90
Planting Ground	341 acres	Do 1 Year old	103
Mowing Land	495 acres	Horses	77
Orcharding	16 acres	Do 3 years old	12
Oxen	160	Do 2 years old	13
Cows	222	Do 1 year old	10
Negroes	6	Pasture Land	150 acres
	6 mills yearly income £125		

EZEKIEL MORRILL } Selectmen
THOMAS CLOUGH } for Canterbury

(1) The township of Bow, at this time, included a large part of Rumford. See Hist. of Concord, pp. 219, 220.—ED.

An Invoice of the Polls, Stocks and improved Lands in the Township of Canterbury taken by us the Subscribers according to the best of our knowledge.

Polls	57	Cattle 3 years old	22
Houses	33	Do 2 years old	29
Planting Land	62 acres	Do 1 year old	37
Mowing Land	189 Do	Horses	35
Orchard Land	4 Do	Do 3 years old	
Pasture Land	146	Do 2 years old	4
Oxen	52	Do 1 year old	6
Cows	98		

One Negro 2 Mills yearly income £20

EZEKIEL MORRILL } Selectmen
THOMAS CLOUGH } for
EPHRAIM HACKETT } Canterbury

<i>Bow</i>		<i>Canterbury</i>	
Polls	£2770	Polls	£1026
Land	502 : 10	Land	200 : 10
Houses	231	Horses	105
Oxen	480	Oxen	156
Cows	444	Cows	196
3 yr old	145 : 10	3 yr old	33
2 Do	103	2 Do	33

Bow.
1 Do
Slaves

56 : 10
96

4828 : 10
1000 Doom

£5828 : 10

Canterbury.

1 Do
Slaves 21 : 10
16

1787
300 Doom

£2687

Petition of Ed^d Russel & others.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief In and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, To the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said Province, Convened in General Assembly June 12th 1764

The Petition of Edward Russell, Solomon Heath and Thomas Chandler all of Bow in said Province Humbly Sheweth That the Petitioners have lately Settled themselves on some of the Uncultivated Land in said Town of Bow where they still remain Hardly able to support themselves and Families

That the Petitioners understand there is a Very Great Province Tax laid on the Inhabitants of Said Town of Bow the last year, this Present year & the next year for their Delinquency for the space of seven or Eight years last past a Proportion of which Tax if Laid on the Petitioners would almost Ruin them and oblige them to Quit their Said Settlements. Wherefore the said Petitioners Humbly pray your Excell'y & Hon^s to take their Circumstances under Consideration and Relieve them from paying any Proportion of the said Tax In such manner as Your Excell'y & Hon^s shall in your Great Wisdom & Clemency see fit. And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

EDW^d RUSSELL for Himself
and Behalf of y^e Rest

Province of) In Council June 14th 1764

New Hamp) Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House

T. Atkinson Jun Secy

Province of) In the house of Representatives June 14th 1764

New Hamp) Upon Read'g the within petition

Voted that the petitioners be heard thereon the Second Day of the sitting of the Gen Assembly after the first day of Aug. next & that the petitioners at their own Cost Serve the selectmen of Pembroke Ezra Carter Esq^r & Capt. Jn^r Chandler of said Bow who are by Act appointed to make the Assessments for the Tax Referred to in the within petition with a Copy of this petition & order of Court thereon that they may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted and further it is Resolved that the Collectors appointed

for Collecting said Tax shall forbear Collecting the proportion assessed on the within Petitioners untill the time herein appointed for a hearing
H. Sherburne Speaker

In Council June 15, 1764 read & concurred

T. Atkinson Jun Secy.

Province of } In the house of Representatives Jan^y 9, 1765, A. M.
New Hamps } This petition being Read

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted & that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Jan^y 10 1765

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun Secy.

Petition of Joseph Baker & Philip Eastman.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r governor and Commander in Chief in & over his majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Hon^{ble} his majestys Council and house of Representatives for said Province in general Assembly Conven'd the First Day of May A. d. 1764.

The Humble Petition of Joseph Baker & Philip Eastman Sence it has Pleas'd your Honours to Appoint us the Subscribers to Collect the Tax that was Appointed for the Inhabitants of Bow to Pay into The Treasury we would inform your Honours That we Have Taken the utmost Care to Collect the money but we have not as yet Collected The whole and we would Beg your Patience a Little while Longer and we will assure your Honours that we will Do our utmost Endeavor to to fulfill your command, furthermore we would Inform your Honours that there is within the Lines of Rumford about Twenty Poles who say that They are without Esq^r Bryent's Line that he Ran in the year forty Nine & for that Reason They Refused to give in their Envoises Gentlemen we Conceive that we Shall be very much hurt By Neglecting our own Business and we should be very glad if your Honours would Take it into your wise Consideration and order the Assessors to Put them into our Lists and Bestow it upon us or help us in any other way which your honours in your grate wisdom Shall Think Best and your Petitioners Shall Ever Pray

JOSEPH BAKER
PHILIP EASTMAN.

Prov. of New Hamps

May 2^l 1764.

read & sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Secy

*Petition of Selectmen of Bow to be eas'd from being Rated
with Concord, Aug 28, 1767.*

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General
Governor and Commander In Chief In and over His majes^{ties}
Council and House of Representatives Convened in General
Assembly

The Petition of the Selectmen of Bow in Behalf of themselves
and Inhabitants of s^d Bow Exclusive of such as are Set of into
Parishes; Humbly Sheweth that we Have Town officers agree-
able to Bow Charter and are Ready and willing to assess, Col-
lect and Pay our Proportion of Publick Charges with other
Towns In this Province your Petitioners Have Been and are
Now Greatly abused by being Rated with Concord for Their
Select men are y^e major Part of the assessors and they make
the Rate as they see fitt.

Wherefore the sd. Petitioners Humbly and Earnestly Prays
your Excellency and Honours to take their Distressed Circum-
stances under Consideration and Release Them From Being
Rated any Longer with Concord in Such manner as your Ex-
cellency and Honours Shall in your Great wisdom and Clem-
ency see Fitt and Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall
Ever Pray

SAMUEL ROGERS	} Select men of Bow
SAMUEL WELCH	
EPIHRAIM MOONY	

In Council August 28th 1767

Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House
T. Atkinson Jun. Secy

BRENTWOOD.

[Brentwood, formerly part of Exeter, was incorporated 26 June, 1742.
For various other Papers relating to this Town, see those under Exeter. Ed.]

Names of persons in Brentwood desiring a Parish.

Brentwood, July 11, 1743.

We the Subscribers Do hereby signifie that we Really Ex-
pected and also Desired to stand by the Act of the General Court
in making of us a Parish But yet we perceive that the hon^{ble}
Corte have bin Enformed by Sundry Parsons that the major
Part of the Parish are Dissatisfy'd in what is done in that
afair this is to Shew it is not so.

John Roberds	Elisha Sanborn
Joseph Leivett	James Young
Thomas Gorden	Benj ^t Fifield
John Marsh	Bridget Smith
Robert Young	Thomas Scritchet
Edward Stevens	Abraham Smith
Daniel Giles	Gorg Roberds
Israel Smith	James Dudley
John Been	Joel Jenkins
Nicholas Gorden	Robert Brown
John Folsham	Joseph Atkinson
Ichial Smith	Jacob Smith
Moses Fifield	Jabez Clough
David Bean	James Gloyd
Samuel Roberds	Nicholas Dollof
Samuel Jones	Alexander Roberds
Charles Young	William Granby (?)
Benj ^t Vesey	Daniel Sanborn
Jeremiah Bean	Jon ^s Roberson
Biley Harvey	William Smith
John Giles	Jon ^s Toller
Benj ^t Roberds	Nath ^l Prescott
John Roberds	Jon ^s Cram
David Smith	Jeremiah Row
Jonathan Smith	Jedediah Prescott
John Smith	James Roberson
Josiah Moody	Daniel Tilton
Zackariah Jude (?)	John Jones
Nath ^l Folsham	Joseph Giles
James Dudley jun	Henry Marsh
Joseph Gose	Job Kenistone
Benj ^t Scribner	John Mudgit
Ebenezer Hutchison	

*Petition of the inhab^s of the North part of Brentwood
about a meeting-house.*

To his Excell^y Benning Wentworth Esq^r Gov^r & Comandⁱⁿ Chief in & over his Maj^{ty}s Province of New Hampshire And to the Hon^{ble} his Maj^{ty}s Council, & Representatives In Gen^l Court assembled

We the Subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants of the North-erly part of the parish of Brintwood in the Province aforesaid Do Humbly crave leave of y^r Excell^y & hon^r to lay this our humble Remonstrance of our distressed circumstances before your Excell^y & Hon^{rs} as follows viz.

Many of us Living four or five Miles Distant from Exeter meeting House, have attended the Publick Worship of God at that House for many years past, with great Difficulty, & our Familys Encreasing made it much more difficult especially in the Winter Spring and fall of the year. Wherefore About eight

years ago we with Several of the Southerly part of said Parish Erected a House for the Publick Worship of God in the most suitable place as they then tho't and we now do think to Carry on the Publick Worship in And accordingly at our own charge have Carryed on the Same in the Winter, Spring & fall of the yeare ever since as we had for four years, or thereabouts before Erecting said House carryd on the Publick Worship in a Private House Standing neare our Publick Meeting House

And about last February was twelve month, the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Southerly part of Brintwood aforesaid Petitioned the Town of Exeter aforesaid to be set off as a Parish contrary to the will & desire of most of us, & said Town of Exeter Granted their said Petition, notwithstanding many of us Dissented therefrom, And their said Petition being Granted, they afterwards applyed to your Excell'y & Hon^r for a Charter for said Parish, which was granted them Contrary to our Desier, and greatly to our hurt. And we also having Earnestly Petitioned your Excell'y & Hon^r that we might be permitted to Continue to Carry on the Publick Worship of God in our said House, and to be set off by such Boundaries as your Excell'y & Hon^r Should think meet, & to be Exempted from all Charge towards the meeting and ministry in the Southerly p^t of Said Parish &c. as by our Petition lying before y^r Excell'y & Hon^r in your Hon^{ble} Court may appear. Which Petition the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives have seen meet to Dismiss. And also your Excell'y & Hon^r having appointed a Committee of four Gen^l two out of Each House to Prefix the place where the meeting House ought to Stand, Three of said Gen^l have been and made Return but is accounted voyd by your Excell'y & Hon^r For that the Comitee did not all Joyn in their Return & for which Reason our Petition was also Dismist. Wherefore our case at present Seems very hard & Difficult, we having been at such cost to Erect our said House and to maintain Preaching in it hitherto & the Minister also who hath hitherto preached to us being at our Earnest desire willing to Continue with us in the Ministry. If your Excell'y & Hon^r will in your great Wisdome take this our Remonstrance of our Difficult Circumstances in our Present Meeting House not being Established & our aforesaid Petition not being Granted & the great Charges and Difficulties we hitherto have and still do Labour under, under your Excell'y & Hon^r wise Consideration & be pleased to grant us Relief herein as in your Great Wisdom you shall see meet And as in Duty Bound we your Excellys & Hon^r most obedient Humble servants shall ever Pray &c

Dated at Brintwood June 27th Anno Dom 1743.

Andrew Gillman
Wilson
Edw^d Colcord
Nich^s Dudley
Antipas Gillman
Tim^s Leavitt
Benj^t Gillman
Sam^l Edgerly
Sam^l Dudley
Jon^s Thing
Stephen Levit
Jonsia Thing
Jon^s Wadley
Nich^s Dudley Jun^r
Jerem^s Bean
John Dudley

John George
Edw^d Thing
Dan^l Quimby
Sarraⁿ Gorden
John Leavit
James Stephens
Joseph Hoyt
Joshua Bean
John Mogridge
John Hilton
Ithiel Clifford
Sam^s Smith
Dan^l Wormal
Marthy Bean
Haley Stephens
Jer^m Gillman Jun^r

In the House of Representatives July 1st 1743. The within Petition read & considered on & Voted That Eleazer Russell Esqr Mark Langdon Gen^l & Noah Barker of Stratham be a Committee to Joyn Such as the Hon^{ble} the Council shall app^l to go to the Parish of Brentwood, and view the Situation of said parish and see whether it will be most convenient for the Inhabitants thereof to be Divided into two Parishes, or whether the whole shall meet at the meeting House already Built for some Limited time, or to Conclude upon some other method that they shall think to be for the best good of the said P^sh. In order for their being Settled in Peace, and that they make Report to the Gen^l Ass^m the third day of the Sitting of the Gen^l Ass^m at their next Sessions and that the Petitioners be at the charge of the Committee and that the Petitioners Serve the Select men of Brentwood with a Copy of this Petition & Votes, that they may Notife the Parish of these proceedings and that those that will *dispute* what is acted may appear at the day above said.

James Jeffry Cl^r Ass^m

Eod^a Die In Council Read and Concurr'd & the above said Committee hereby Established & Impowered for the End above said

Eod^a Die Assented to B. WENTWORTH Theodore Atkinson Secy.
Copia Examined Theo^l Atkinson Secy.

Province of Hamp^r Sep. 22^d 1743.

Pursuant to the within order we have been to the Parish of Brentwood & viewed the same, & Considered the Circumstances thereof & think it best to Continue them at the old meeting House for the term of four years.

ELEAZER RUSSELL
MARK LANGDON
NOAH BARKER

In the House of Representatives 7th the 23^d 1743

The above Return read And Voted That the Return be accepted, and that they Continue at the old Meeting House for the Space of four years and at the Expiration thereof, The Major Part of the legal Voters in said parish at that time Shall set the Meeting House for Publick Worship where they think Proper.

James Jeffry Cl^r Ass^m.

In the House of Representatives Decem^r 3^d 1743.

Voted That this Petition and all the Proceedings thereon be Dismissed.

James Jeffry Cl^r Ass^m

Petition of Elisha Sanborn about Brentwood 1745

To the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives for the Province of New Hampshire in General assembly conven'd April 2^d 1745:

The Petition of Elisha Sanborne of the Parish of Brintwood In Said Province Yeoman as agent for said Parish Humbly Shews

That the Said Parish was made & Incorporated by an act of the Gen^l Assembly made & passed in y^e Sixteenth Year of His Majestys Reign by Metes & Bounds Set forth in said act being before part of the old Parish or Town of Exeter. That Since the Said Parish was so Incorporated His Excellency the Governor has been pleased (by & with the advice of the Council) to grant a Charter for Erecting and Incorporating part of the afores^d parish of Brintwood Into another Parish by the name of Keeneborough whereby great part of the Inhabitants of Brintwood Conceive themselves Discharged from paying Taxes & Doing any other Duty within the Parish of Brintwood & Claim the powers authoritys & Priviledges of a Parish within the Limits given by the said Charter the consequence of which is many persons are doubly tax'd & great Debates & strifes have & are likely to arise. That the Parishioners of Brintwood apprehend that not only their powers authoritys & priviledges are made null if the said Charter be good, but the act of Incorporation aforesaid is also Defeated & Superseded which greatly affects the Rights & Priviledges of this House & in them all the King's subjects in this Province That the said Parishioners foresee a wide Field of Law opening before them hereby (one of their Number having been already Imprisoned for Rates made in Consequence of the afores^d Charter) which they Should be glad to avoid if it could be without giving up their Just Rights Wherefore your Petitioner in behalf of his principals prays the advisement of this Hon^{ble} House in the premises that some scheme may be Pursued In Conjunction with the other Branches of the Legislature as may settle these Disputes (but just beginning) upon such a foundation as is agreeable to the Constitution & on which a lasting peace may be built & Your Petitioner In behalf of his Constituents Shall Ever pray &c

ELISHA SANBORN.

Remonstrance against Keenborough Patent.

Province of)
N. Hamp^{sh})

To His Exc^{ty} The Gov^r and the Hon^{ble} the Council, May it Please your Ex & Honors

On the 2^d Day of the last month Elisha Sanborn of y^e par-

ish of Brentwood in s^d prov. Yeoman as agent for said Parish represented to this House in way of Petition that the said Parish &c (here recite the Petition at large) * * * *

Which Petition of the said Elisha in Part above recited we have taken into our most mature Consideration together with authenticated copys of the said act and Charter mentioned in said Petition with such other Evidence as the Petitioner has thought fit to lay before this House in support thereof, by which it manifestly appears to us, that there was an act or Law made and past by the Gov^r Council and repres^{nts} of this Province dated the day of 17 by which a Part of the Town of Exeter was incorporated into a Parish named of Brintwood by metes and Bounds, and that the Inhabitants within said Bounds, were *to duty Parish Duty*, and receive parish privileges in said Brentwood, and were exonerated from parish Duty in the Parishes whereto they belonged before the Date of said Law: That Discontent soon arose among the Parishioners of s^d Brentwood about the Place of fixing their meeting House, which occasioned a new Petition to the Governor Council and Gen. assembly dated the day of 17 for a minor Part of said Parishioners prayer, to have the said Parish divided into two Parishes but that which was offered in support thereof appearing frivolous to the General assembly, the said Petition was by them ordered to be dismissed: That afterwards (viz) on the day of 17 The discontented Party petitioned anew to His Exc^{ly} and Council regardless of the General assembly (one Branch of the Legislature) praying again for a Division of s^d Brentwood into Two Parishes, which your Ex. and Council (without the Gen^l assembly) were pleased to take Cognizance of, and on the day of 17 to grant a Charter under the Province Seal to the said Petitioners, incorporating another Parish named Keenborough by metes and Bounds and exonerating the Inhabitants of said Keenborough from their Parish Duty in Brentwood which they were obliged to do and perform there by Law, which charter so far This House looks upon as an attempt to abrogate and supersede a Law in Part, and thereby an open Usurpation of a Power appertaining to the Gen^l assy in Conjunction with the Gov^r and Coun. and a manifest invasion of the Just rights and Privileges of the People whom we represent. and an Infringem^t on the rights of the Parishioners of Brentwood. and an oppression of them in particular, which we think ourselves obliged to take notice of in Duty to His Majesty, in faithfulness to our Constituents and in Justice & Honour to ourselves and to remonstrate against it. We do therefore earnestly request your Ex^{cy} and Honours, seriously to reconsider this matter, and to recall the Keenborough Grant

and thereby put an end to the Strifes already commenced, and a stop to others ready to break out in consequence thereof and also to save this House the Trouble of saying or acting further on upon it, for as we are the representatives of a free protestant People and as such the Guardians of their Privileges, we esteem ourselves obliged to make a stand ag^t every attempt made to deprive them of their just Rights, and particularly we shall think ourselves inexcusable in case your Ex^{ts} and Hon^{rs} should not relieve us if we should not apply to His most Excellent majesty who is graciously pleased to esteem his own Prerogatives and his Subjects Privileges equally dear to him for a remedy, and we esteem ourselves more especially obliged to take this step (if your Ex & Hon^{rs} don't prevent it) as it is not the first Instance wherein your Excellency has attempted to invade our rights. Witness your Endeavours to get the provincial Records of Deeds into your Hands, or at least to have the Disposal of them, which are no other than the Peoples Evidences of their Titles to their Land Estates and therefore according to the rules of common sense and Reason, ought to be in their own several keepings if it could be, but as it can't they ought to be disposed of by them who are the Proprietors of their Evidences as well as of their Estates. Another Instance was your Excellency's Endeavor to augment the number of members of this House by your own near arbitrary Power, without any Law enabling you so to, or any colour of authority from His majesty for your so doing that was ever made known to us, to which may be added your Excellency's causing a number of men to scout on y^e west side of merri-mack River last summer before A Grant was made for their Pay and Subsistance, and which we humbly apprehend your Excellency could not rationally expect ever would be and the scouters remain to this Day without wages and those that subsisted them without their pay for it whether this is not oppressive we leave to the wisest Judges to determine. Proceedings of this nature will cast no blame on us, but it gives us Concern, that any office must bear the Records of such Conduct were it possible for us to entertain so dishon^l a Thought as that a Vote could be past at the Council Board, and the Voters not be fully apprised of your directions without maturely deliberating on the materials it was built with we should have at Once concluded, that the Vote for Keenborough Charter was such an one. May it please y^r Ex and Hon^{rs} we crave Leave to repeat our request to you for a reconsideration of the Keenborough affair and that you will be pleased to do what is just and right therein to quiet the minds of the People to stay the Strifes already begun and to prevent other Divisions that are like to arise—we are Zealously concerned that Love and Peace

may be cultivated in the Province and a Harmony in the administration, that the Prerogative may always rest secure that the Infractions made on our Privileges may be healed, and that they may ever hereafter remain safe and inviolate.

Charter of Keenborough.

Province of } George the Second by the grace of God of Great Britain
New Hamps } France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c.

To all to whom these Presents Shall come Greeting For as much as it hath been Represented to us by Capt. Andrew Gilman and other Inhabitants of the parish of Brentwood that great disorders have arisen in said Parish Respecting their parish affairs in general. And that all proposals hitherto attempted have proved ineffectual to Restore peace and good Order amongst them Wherefore, the said Capt. Andrew Gilman in behalf of himself and others Humbly Prays That a new parish may be erected in said Parish of Brentwood And to the end that peace and good Order may be Established Know y^e therefore of our Especial Grace certaine Knowledge & meer motion By & with the advice of our Trusty & well beloved Benning Wentworth Esq^r our Capt General Governor and Commander in chief of our Province of New Hampshire in New England and of our council of said Province have Incorporated, ordained declared and appointed And by these presents for us our Heirs & Successors Do Incorporate ordain declare and appoint out of the Parish of Brentwood all that Tract or parcel of Land Situate lying & Being in y^e Parish of Brentwood in our Province of New Hamp^t aforesaid containing by admeasurement twelve thousand five hundred Ninety five acker & one Quarter of an acre according to a plan & Survey made by order of our Said Governor by George Mitchel Esq^r and Cap^t Dudley Odlin hearunto annexed abutting & Bounding as by y^e said Plan or Survey may appear And we do hereby ordain And appoint that the respective Inhabitants that now are or that shall hereafter be in possession of the Lands within the Plan or Survey aforesaid shall [be] one Society Corporation and Body Politick to have continuance forever by the name of Keenborough and that they and their Successors shall by that name be able and Capeable in law to call Parish Meetings The first of which is to be called within thirty days from the date hereof by Capt. Andrew Gilman and Humphrey Wilson & Benjamin Gilman And the meetings hereafter shall be on the first Monday of April annually And we do hereby give and grant unto the said society or Corporation full Power and authority to make choice of proper Officers to Levy Taxes on the Inhabitants for the Support of the Society agreeable to the Laws of our Province of New hamp-hire made for regulating Town and Parish affairs. And we do further give and grant to the said society full Power to call & settle a Regular and Orthodox Minister of the Gospel and to Levy Taxes on the Inhabitants conformable to the Laws aforesaid of our Province aforesaid for his support Reserving only the Reommanding the first minister to the President and seinour Fellows of Harvard Colledge in New England, to the Reverend Jabez Fitch & the Reverend John Odlin. And we do also hereby Reserve to his most Sacred Majesty his heirs & successors all white Pine Trees growing standing or being within the plan or survey Above mentioned the Preservation whereof for his Majesties Royal Navy is the Tennure by which you hold and enjoy your Corporation. And lastly we do declare and

Ordaine. That these our Letters Patent & every clause Sentence and article herein contained shall be in all things firm and vallid & effectual in the Law unto the Said Society & their Successors according to the Purport & Tenuure hereof

Provided, that these our Letters Patents be recorded within one month from the Date hereof in our Recorder's Office appointed for that purpose in our said Province of New Hampshire

In witness whereof we have caused the

to be made Patent

Witness our [torn off]

and Commander in Chief of our Said Province the twenty seventh day of October in the year of our reign Annoq Domine 174—

Pr his Excellency's

B. WENTWORTH.

Command with
advice of Council

Theodore Atkinson Sec'y

Copy Ex^l

Theodore Atkinson Sec'y

Petition of the Selectmen of Keeneborough.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr; Governor & Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire in Council

The Humble Petition of the Selectmen of Keeneborough in the behalf of y^e Inhabitants of sd Parish Humbly sheweth

Whereas your Excellency in Conjunction with the Honourable his Majesties Council was pleased to take compassion on us under our former Difficulties and Grant us a Parrish by ourselves; For which we looked upon ourselves greatly oblidge to your Excellency, and the Honoured Council and hoped to have enjoyed great peace & quietness and by virtue of the Charter given us, we have acted ever since. and according to Charter have proceeded to settle a Gospel Minister amongst us viz: The Rev. Mr. Nathaniel Trask. which by Charter we supposed we had full power to do. and to Raise money for his Settlement & Support, and accordingly have raised a Tax upon y^e Inhabitants for y^e end, but some Discontented persons amongst us. Influenced by some of y^e Parish of Brentwood. and by others in other places. who informed them that your Excellency and his Majesties Council, had no power to make us a Parish, and y^e your Charter was good for nothing. and being likewise encouraged by y^e Gentlemen of y^e Law. have refused to pay their Taxes. and being seized and Imprisoned by y^e Constable. has brought the Case into y^e Law; and to our great Surprise, Judgment went in their favour, at y^e last Superior Court. So y^e now we are in a Deplorable Condition; Having a Minister Settled and money to pay both for his Settlement & support, and no power to raise any Money in a Legal way, or to gather in any Tax, already raised, and hav-

ing been at great Expense in vindicating y^e Charter, and seeing no hopes of a Reconciliation with y^e Parish of Brentwood, their Demand being so unreasonable, nor of Relief in any other way. In this Deplorable Case we humbly crave pitty of your Excellency & the Honourable his Majesties Council, and that you would advise us what to do, and would be pleased to find out some way for our Relief, for otherwise we shall run into y^e greatest Confusion. Religion will Die amongst us, and both Civil & Ecclesiastical authority be trampled upon; So hoping that your Excellency & y^e Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council will afford us relief, under these pressing Difficulties and prevent our Ruin, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

	TIMOTHY LEAVIT	} Selectmen of Keeneborough
	EDWARD COLCORD	
	NICHOLAS DUDLEY	
Keeneborough Septem-	JEREMIAH BEAN	
ber y ^e 20 th 1748.	JOHN DUDLEY	

*Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of Brintwood,
praying to be set off as a parish.*

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor & Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire the honorable his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd 12th day of June 1764

The Petition of us the Subscribers humbly sheweth that whereas we who are of the Parish of Brintwood in said Province are exposed by being at a great distance from Meeting for the public worship of God Therefore pray your Honers to take our Case into your wise Consideration and set us off as a Parish with all Parish privileges one half of the aforesaid Parish of Brintwood for quantity on the westerly end, Beginning at the northwesterly Corner of said Parish running Easterly on Epping Line so far as to contain one half of the length of said Line. Then beginning at the South westerly Corner of said Parish running Easterly on Kingston Line one half of the Length of the said South Line then to run a Straight Line across said Parish of Brintwood so as to contain full one half of the Land of said Brintwood agreeable to a Vote of said Parish reference hereto being had may make fully appear. And your Petitioners in duty bound Shall ever pray

John Taylor
Joshua Kimball
Benj^r Kimball

Zacheus Clough
John Kimball
Nathan Kimball

Jonathan Brown
Joseph Hoyt
Jonathan Ring
James Tucker
Daniel Brown
John Hoyt
Abel Morrill
John French
John Glidden
Israel Smith
Robert Glidden
Ephraim Brown
Benjamin Cram
Abraham Sanborn
Elias Swain
Jonathan Hoyt
Benjamin Hoyt
Reuben Hoyt
John Prescott Lovren ?

James Merrill
James Merrill Jun
John Kenison
Nathan Brown
Enoch Brown
John Hoyt Jun.
Samuel Hoyt
Joseph Taylor
Daniel Kimball
Samuel Clough
John Clough
David Kimball
Richard Clough
David Hoyt
Samuel Moody
Clement Moody
Nath^l Whittier
Nathaniel Whittier Jun
Benjamin Clough

Province of) In the House of Representatives June 14th 1764
New Hamps-) This petition being read

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted & that the petitioners have leave to bring In a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council June 15th 1764

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Sec.

At a Parish Meeting held at the meeting house in Brintwood the fifteenth Day of May 1764

Voted Deacon Jeremiah Bean moderator of said meeting at the same meeting it was Put to Vote to see if the Parish would maintain Two ministers in said Parish & it Past in the Negative

Voted the Inhabitants of the Westerly End of the Parish be set off to be a Parish by themselves that is to come one half the way Down on Epping Line & Run such a Point a cross to Kingston Line as to contain one half y^e Land in Sd Parish

ELISHA SANBORN Clerk

A copy Examd.

CANTERBURY.

[This town was incorporated 20 May, 1727.—ED.]

At a meeting of the Proprietors of the Town of Canterbury holden by announcement the 16 Day of May 1738, Then Voted that Sam^l Smith Thomas Young & Sam^l Adams are and shall be a Committee to Represent The Town of Canterbury at the General Court by (a petition ?) to be Enabled by an act to make the Proprietors pay their Proportion of the charge that hath arisen and shall hereafter arise in the management of the affairs of said town

Sam^l Smith Town Cl^r

Petition of the Proprietors of Canterbury about cutting a road, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Court Convened

The Petition of Thomas Young of New Market in said Province Innholder & Samuel Adams of Durham in said Province Physician as Agents for & in behalf the Proprietors of the Township of Canterbury in said Province & in behalf of the Inhabitants of that place Humbly *Shews*—

That the said Proprietors have for some few years last past applied themselves more closely than at first to the pursuit of proper measures for Settling the said Township, & among other things tho't proper for that end have built a meeting house & from time to time hired a minister to Preach to the Inhabitants, which has encouraged the Settlement so that there are about thirty Families now upon the spot.

That the said Proprietors have with considerable expence cut a way from Durham up into the Country upwards of twenty miles towards the said Township of Canterbury, which if cut thro' will be of Great advantage not only to that place but to the Province in General and which they are not able to Effect. & must (with other designs formed for the End aforesaid) fall thro', for want of Proper Laws to Compel such Proprietors as neglect to pay their proportion of the Charge & of such necessary taxes as have from time to time been laid upon them

That it is Evident beyond Contradiction that such designs cannot be executed without Considerable cost & Expence & that every Proprietor ought to bear his proportion of the Charge which has not been done in this case, but the Burthen has been borne by such as were voluntary in the affair & so Reasonable as to do what they Knew they could not be Compelled to by Law Relating to the good of the Propriety

That there are several years taxes not fully paid but arrearages due from Sundry of the Said Proprietors the want of which has been Supplied by others advancing such sums as were necessary and as occasion call'd for them which is a great grievance & a most unreasonable thing that the Charge of carrying on a settlement should be defrayed by some & the advantage be reap'd by all, or that some should be exempted from the charge & yet be equally Intitled to the Profits with those who have born it

That the said Township is a valuable Tract of Land & the settlement thereof (as your Petitioners humbly conceive) deserves the Countenance of the Government as much as & per-

haps more than any new Township in the Province upon more accounts than can be here Enumerated & without which the Settlement will necessarily go on heavily & Slowly as it has hitherto done

Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray that an Act may now be passed to Enable the said Proprietors by their Select men or other officers to Compel such Proprietors as have not paid their proportion of the Rates which have been assessed, to pay them forth with & in default thereof to Dispose of so much of their land, or anything thereon that will Raise the Money as was lately done for the Proprietors of Nottingham or to Levy the same as the Constables of Towns do the Town & Province tax and that Effectual Provision may also be made to Enable them to Raise money upon themselves for the future & Enforce the payment in such a Summary & Expedition method as may answer the Ends of the Propriety & promote the Settlement & thereby the General good and your Petitioners in behalf of their Constituents as in duty bound Shall ever pray &c

THOMAS YOUNG
SAM^l ADAMS

Feb'y 25th 1741.

Febr^y the 27th 1741
In the House of Representatives

Voted That the Prayer of the Petition be granted & that the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly the act to Continue five years and no longer

James Jaffry Cl^r ass^m

In Council March 9th 1741-2

Read & Concurred

Rich^d Waldron Sec^y

Same day

assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of Proprietors of Canterbury for a Bridge.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire. The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General assembly Convened the 22^d Day of Feb in y^e 17th year of His Majesty's Reign.

The Humble Petition of Samuel Adams & Joseph Drew both of Durham in said Province as the Major part of a Committee of the Proprietors of Canterbury Chosen to find out & clear a Way or Road from Durham to said Canterbury Shews That yor^e Petitioners with Benj^t Smith of said Durham were

chosen & appointed for the business aforesaid and have with Considerable Expence found out & Clear'd a Place for a Road from Durham to Canterbury which may be made with little farther expence (Saving the building a Bridge over Sun Cook River over which the said Way must unavoidably run) a very good Road

That your Petitioners Conceive the Public advantage of good Roads Especially in a time of War for flight or other occasions are so obvious that nothing need to be said on that head and that as every Town is in some Degree benefited thereby where there is a call for an Extraordinary Charge it ought not to be the burthen of the town to which it leads only but of every Town and in this Case the Charge could not be born by that Town

That in order to make the said way answer all the good purposes designed thereby there must be a good Strong Bridge Built over the said River & the Proprietors of Canterbury having been at a very great expence already in Clearing Said Way and carrying an end other affairs to promote their Settlement are not able to Build the said Bridge at their own Cost

Wherefore your Petitioners Pray that a Bridge may be built at the charge of the Province over the said River at the place to which the Way Cleared as afores leads That the same may be forthwith proceeded upon before the Ice breaks up because of the advantage of working upon it And that as the said Way is not opened by any authority of Law it may be Established by the authority of the General assembly for a Publick Road and your Petitioners In behalf of the Proprietors of Canterbury and all others concern'd as in Duty bound Shall ever pray &c

SAM^L ADAMS
JOSEPH DREW

In the House of Representatives Feb 23^d 1743-4,

The within Petition Read & Voted,

Provided the Proprietors of the Town of Canterbury Build a Bridge this year Sufficient for carts & carriages to pass and repass on over Sun-cook River where the way is Now Cutt to to Travell from Durham to Canterbury & will Warrant to Maintain the Same Bridge for ten years That there be paid the said Proprietors the Sum of fifty pounds Bills of Credit out of the Interest Arising on the twenty five thousand pounds Loan out of that part of said Interest appropriated for Cutting Roads &c when So much shall be in the Treasury

In Council Feby. 24th 1743

read & concurred

James Jaffrey Cl^k Assm

Theod. Atkinson Secy.

Eodem Die assented to
Prov. New Hamp

B. WENTWORTH

Petition of Canterbury men for wages.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General, and Governor in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire To the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council of said Province And to the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives, in General Court assembled at Portsmouth, within & for the Province of New Hampshire aforesaid 1754

The Petition of Jeremiah Clough, Philip Call, Samuel French, Thomas Clough, Ezekiel Clough, Henry Elkins, Samuel Moor, Samuel Shepherd & James Shepherd humbly sheweth:

That whereas your humble Petitioners, by Order of his Excellency the Governor, Kept the Garrison at Canterbury in the Province of New Hampshire aforesaid, as follows viz

Jer. Clough } begin with y^r 5th of Jan 1747—to y^r 20th of
Philip Call } November following
Sam^r French }

Thom^r Clough } beginning with y^e 5th of Jan 1747 to y^e 8th of
Ezek Clough } May following,

Henry Elkins beginning with the 5th of Jan 1747—to the 12th of August following

Sam^r Moor } beginning with the 9th of May 1747 to y^e
Sam^r Shepherd } 20th of November following:

James Shepherd beginning with y^r 13th of August 1747 to the 20th of Novem^r following.

And faithfully & effectually performed all necessary Duties in said Garrison, according to our respective stations so that the Enemy never took any advantage to the Damage & Hurt of said Garrison, or of any that belonged to it, during the whole time above mentioned. And yet your humble Petitioners have never as yet been allowed any Wages, or Billeting for our Service, except £100 new tenor toward Billeting, received pr. Cap^r Clough, tho' other Soldiers who served since we did have been paid both Wages & Billeting. Therefore we your humble Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency & your Honours to take our Case into your wise Consideration, & to grant us wages and Billeting, for the time which we have served, as afores'd. For which Goodness, your humble Petitioners for your Excellency & your Honours, as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Jeremiah Clough
Philip Call
Thomas Clough
Samuel Moor
Samuel Shepherd
James Shepherd

Henry Elkins
his
Samuel ~~mark~~ French
mark
Ezekiel Clough

In Council March 2^d 1754 read & ordered
to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House of represen^{ts}

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of) In the House of Representatives March 2^d 1754 upon
New Hamp^{sh}) Reading the within Petition

Voted that it be dismiss'd.

Attest Matthew Livermore Clerk

Petition of Canterbury for remission of Tax, 1754.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain general,
& Governor in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New
Hampshire. To the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council: And to
the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives in General Court as-
sembled.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Canterbury in the Prov-
ince of New Hampshire aforesaid humbly *sheweth*

That whereas your humble Petitioners (whose Names are
hereunto subscribed) are reduced to great Difficulties, &
Charges by the threatening Aspect of a War, we humbly pray
your Excellency & your Honours to consider & compassionate
our distressed Circumstances; & to remit our Proportion of
the Province Tax for this year 1754 & till the pressing Danger
& Difficulties of War are over. For which Goodness your
humble Petitioners for your Excellency & your Honours as in
Duty bound shall ever pray

Jeremiah Clough

William Miles

Thomas Clough

Josiah Miles

John Bamford

Samuel Shepherd

Solomon Copp

Benjamin Blanchard

John Gibbons

John Delloff

James Gibson

James Lindsey

Samuel Shepherd jun.

James Shepherd

Joseph Simons

Joseph Ellis

James Scales

Ezekiel Morrill

William Moor

Henry Elkins

Province of) In Council July the 24th 1754

New Hamp^{sh}) read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House of
representatives

Theo^d Atkinson Secy.

Petition of Selectmen for remission of taxes.

Province of)
New Hamp^r)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Honorable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd December the fourteenth 1756.

The Petition of the Selectmen of Canterbury in the Province of New Hampshire in behalf of the Inhabitants of said Town Most humbly Shews—

That by reason of the few Inhabitants in said Town, its being a Frontier and so more exposed to the Incursions and depredations of the Enemy and by Reason of the war this and the last year with the Indian Enemy your Petitioners and others the Inhabitants of said Town are rendered unable to pay the Provincial Taxes laid upon them the last and the present year. That it is with great difficulty under their present circumstances, that they can maintain and support themselves, should they pay no provincial Taxes at all—Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours That you will be pleased to Ease the said Inhabitants of the Provincial Taxes laid upon them the last and this present year and for such further time as to your Excellency and Honours shall seem just and reasonable and in such way and manner as you shall Judge most suitable and proper and that your Petitioners may have opportunity to enforce the prayer hereof and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

JOHN MOOR
ARCHELAUS MOOR } Selectmen
THOMAS CLOUGH }

Nov. 30th 1756

Province of) Read in Council & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble}
N. Hamp^s) House

Theod. Atkinson Secy.

Petition relating to the Original Charter.

Province of)
New Hampshire)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, And the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council

Humbly Sheweth Josiah Miles Yeoman and Thomas Clough House wright both of Canterbury in said Province & a Com-

mittee appointed by the said Town to apply to your Excellency & Honours on the Following acc't. viz: That the Township of Canterbury was Granted by the Late Hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq^r Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over said Province dec'd to a Number of persons whose names are in a Schedule herewith presented attested by the Late Sec'y Richard Waldron Esq^r dec'd as Clerk of that Council and said Grantees procure'd a Copy of the said Charter and Recorded the same in their Town book of said Canterbury, a Copy of which Charter attested by the Town Clerk of said Canterbury is herewith also presented. And as the Inhabitants of the said Township have been at Great Trouble & pains in Settling said Township and have been a Great part of the time since the obtaining the Charter aforesaid Labouring under an Indian War (and many Rumors thereof when it was not an actual Warr) and said Township being a frontier the Inhabitants had as much as they could Subsist under to maintain their Respective familys without making any Enquiry into their Charter priviledges. But at Length Some people among them making Enquiry about the said Charter found a Transcript thereof in their Town Book but without any attestation and on further Enquiry Could not find the Original Charter nor any attested Copy thereof any where nor any Record thereof in the Secy's office and as the aforesaid Secy Waldrons house was burnt with many publick papers of the Province they are apprehensive the said Original Charter was then burnt

Wherefore the said Josiah and Thomas as aforesaid pray that the said Copys aforesaid may be Recorded in the Secy's office and they confirmed in their Respective Estates as tho they now had the aforesaid Original Charter, and they as in Duty bound shall Ever pray

Portsmouth Jan'y 16, 1756.

JOSIAH MILES }
THOMAS CLOUGH } Committee

In Council Jan'y 17, 1756.

The Within Petition read & order'd that the Secy. record the Copy said Charter & Schedule it appearing to the Council that the Copys are Genuine.

Theod. Atkinson Secy

Petition of Inhabitants of Canterbury to be set off from Bow.

Province of)

New Hamp)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General
Gov^r & Comm^r in Chief in and over His Majestys Province
of New Hamp^s. The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council and
House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened
June 14th 1764.

The humble Petition of Archelaus Moor Gent. Henry Elkins
W^m Gault. Enoch Webster, William Curry, W^m Moore Joseph
Mann Husbandman Ann Curry widow & Stephen Gerrish
Gent. Sheweth

That your Petitioners are Settled on a Tract of Land in form
of a Gore which until lately was deemed a part of the Town
of Canterbury in said Province, and lays between that and
Bow: But upon running the Canterbury Line about 12 years
ago, the said Gore was found to be Land in right of Mason's
Patent. And Thereupon the Proprietors of the said Town of
Canterbury have Chosen a Committee to Treat with Mr.
Mason's Representative, about the Purchase of the said Land

That your Petitioners are very desirous of being annexed to
the Town of Canterbury, rather than Bow, as they are within
Two miles of Canterbury Meeting House, and are distant six
Miles from that of Bow, and also as they have several Family
Connexions in Canterbury

Your Petitioners therefore humbly Pray your Excellency
and Honours That the aforesaid Gore of Land may be by An
Act of the General Court annexed to and Incorporated with
the said Canterbury & partake of all the Priviledges thereof

And your Pet^r shall Ever pray &c

W. CLAGETT for Petrs.

In Council June 14th 1764

Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House

T. Atkinson, Jun. Secy.

Province of)

New Hamp)

In the house of Representatives July [June?] 14th 1764.

This Petition being Read

Ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon the Second Day of the
Sitting of the General Assembly after the first Day of July next & that
they at their own Cost put up notification at all the public places In
Canterbury & Bow. Incerting therein the substance of this petition, &
order of Court thereon that any persons Concerned therein may appear
& Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be
Granted

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council June 15th 1764

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun. Secy

Province of)

New Hamp)

In the house of Representatives Jan^y 23^d 1765

This petition being Read

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted & the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Jan^y. 23^d 1765

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Junr. Secy.

Petition of Abiel Foster about Town records.

Province of)
New Hamp^{sh})

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor in chief in & over said Province The Honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd

The Humble Petition of Abiel Foster of Canterbury in the County of Rockingham Clerk, as agent for & in behalf of the Proprietors of Canterbury aforesaid Sheweth that a vast Number of Papers containing the Votes and Proceedings of said Proprietors touching their most important Concerns as Proprietors, and by which, many Estates in said Canterbury have been conveyed and are now held by some Neglect or Omission of the Clerks of said Proprietors, have not been recorded.

Upon the Discovery of which said Proprietors appointed a Committee to collect, inspect, examine and see that the same should be recorded in the Proprietors Books. The said Committee according to their appointment carefully examined said Papers and found them to be in the hand writing of the former Clerks of said Proprietors most of them among the files of said Proprietors to have all the Marks of original fair & Genuine Minutes and Entries some made thirty years ago, which Papers the Committee have within six months past caused to be recorded in the Books of said Proprietors, the Record of which Papers contains Eighty Pages in folio or more.

And as the same Papers were not attested by any of the former Clerks of said Proprietors, tho' they appear to be truly made as aforesaid. Your Petitioner humbly conceives that the Interposition of your Excellency and Honors will be necessary to authenticate the Same. Wherefore he humbly prays in behalf of said Proprietors that a Committee of the General Court may be appointed to inspect and examine s^d Papers and Records lately made and to report thereon, and that s^d Papers and records may be authenticated by your Excellency and Honors either by act or Resolve of the General Assembly or in any other way that your Wisdom may suggest And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

ABIEL FOSTER.

January 19th 1774.

Province of) In the house of Representatives Jan 19th 1774,
New Hamps^r) Upon Reading this Petition

Voted that the Petitioner cause the substance of said Petition to be printed in the New Hampshire Gazette three weeks successively and that any party having any Objection may be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly after the 20th of February next
W^m Parker Clr. Assembly

In Council Jan^y 19 1774.

Read and concurd

Geo^r King D. Sec^r.

NOTE. This Petition was renewed April 5th, 1774, and acted on as follows. [ED.]

Province of)
New Hamps^r) In the House of Representatives April 9th 1774

Voted, That the Petitioner be heard on this Petition on the second day of the Sitting of the General Assembly after the tenth Day of May next and that he Cause the Substance of this Petition and Order of Court to be Printed three weeks Successively in the New Hampshire Gazette that any Person may Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition Should not be Granted

M. Weare Clr

In Council eodem Die

Read & concur'd

Geo King D. Secy

Province of) In the House of Representatives May 13th 1774
New Hamps^r) The within Petition being Consider'd and the Parties heard thereon by their Council

Voted That Samuel Catts Esq^r Col^l Christopher Toppan and John Giddings Esq^r be a Committee of this House to join with Such as the Hon^{ble} the Councill Shall appoint to inspect and Examine the Papers and Records mentioned in the Petition and Report thereon to the General Assembly

M. Weare Clr

In Council May 14th 1774

Read and concurd after hearing the Parties.

Geo King D. Sec^r

CHARLESTOWN,

[Originally Number-Four, was first granted by Massachusetts, Decr. 31, 1735. It was incorporated by Charter during the administration of Gov. Benning Wentworth, 2 July, 1733. ED.]

Letter from No. 4 to Colonels Willard and Hinsdale.

No. 4. October 19th 1743.

Hon^{red} Gentlemen

We the Inhabitants of this Township being apprehensive that we are very much Exposed and in hazard In case of a War between y^e nations and are Sensible that we are not Capable of Defending our selves in Case of a rupture by Reason

of y^e smallness of our numbers and Distance From Neighboring Plantations and places of Defence are in Continual Fear Lest we should be Surprised by y^e Heathen and although we are making y^e best Preparation we Can to Secure ourselves yet we are Fearfull we shall not be able to Stand our Ground but must be obliged to Leave our Habitations and Repair to places of more security If we Cannot be Supported by y^e Government.—We therefore Earnestly Desire yo^r Hon^{rs} that you would Improve yo^r Interest with y^e Governours Either of y^e Massachusetts or N. Hampshire (which you shall think most Proper) that we may have such a supply of men posted here as they shall think Necessary for our Defence to be Employ'd Either in Scouting or otherwise as they shall Judge most proper. Lieu^{nt} Witherby is Willing to Come among us with a Company of Men, If he Can obtain order and Encouragement from the Government. We pray you would Write to Either Governour as your Discretion shall Direct you on our behalf and In our names submitting our Case to yo^r Prudence praying you would do what you can for us and as speedily as may be and thereby will oblige

Yo^r Most Humble & Obedient servants

Benjamin Willson
Isaac Parker
Charles Holden
Job Spafford
Isaac Parker Jun.
Abraham Parker
Jn^r Hastings

Superscribed, &c.

David Farnsworth
John Avery
Ebenezer Putnam
John Hastings Jr.
Simeon Sartwell
Benoni Woolcott
John Spafard

Petition of John Spafford.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governour and Commander in Chief in & over his Maj^{ties} Province of New Hampshire and to his Maj^{ties} Council for said Province & the House of Representatives now Conven'd in General Assembly

John Spafford for himself and about thirteen familys Lately Settled on the East Side of Connecticut River being known by the name of No. 4 humbly Sheweth—

That your Petitioners have lately made a Settlement there and at their own Charge hath Built a Large & Strong Garrison and have twenty five men or thereabouts, and have good plantations there and a good prospect of a Considerable p^{cell} of Graine now growing on the Land. But so it is theire Settlements being so much exposed to the Indians, and not above Eighty miles from the French Fort on the Lake where the

French may soon and Easily annoy them & the Indians tells them that they must fight for the french and tells them to take Care of themselves. Your Petitioners being so Exposed to the Enemy and so far from any English Settlem^t they cannot pretend to stand on their own Defence, and therefore humbly prays your Excell^{ty} and honours of the Gen^l Ass^{ly} that they may have some assistance of Men to assist them in Keeping their Garrison and preserve their Cattle and Graine, or as in your Wisdom you shall think fitt. And if no assistance of men may be obtained Then to let the People Know it. That your Petitioners may use Some Speedy means for the preservation of themselves & families and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray &c

JOHN SPAFFORD.

July the 24th 1744.

Petition for a road.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General. Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c The Honourable his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened this Eighteenth Day of October 1768

The Petion of Simon Sartwell, William Heywood and Elijah Grout as Selectmen of the Town of Charlestown in s^d province to your Excellency and Honours humbly *sheweth*, that the Inhabitants of said Charlestown with those of the adjoining Towns. have Looked out and marked a Road, and in part Cleared the Same, between said Charlestown & Boscawen and are of opinion the same may be made a good Carriage Road, which if effected, is humbly conceived might be of Great utility & Benefit to many Towns in this Province by having a much nearer & easier Communication with the Metropolis than has as yet been found out which is tho't would greatly Facilitate the Settlement of many new Townships, hitherto much retarded for want of good Roads.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency & Honours would be pleased to indulge them with your approbation of said Road and that y^e same may be confirmed as the Main Road or Highway from said Charlestown to Boscawen and that such Regulations and orders for farther opening and Clearing said Road may be made as by your Excellency & Honours may tho't best or otherways to Grant such Relief to your Petitioners, in the Premeses as to this Hon^{ble} Court Shall

in wisdom, be Judged best and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

SIMON SARTWELL
W^m. HEYWOOD
ELIJAH GROUT.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Oct^r 26 1768
New Hamps^r } The foregoing Petition being Read & Considered

Voted That the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill to Oblige the Proprietors of the Several Towns through which said Road Marked out as mentioned in the Petition passes, to Clear and make Said Road Passable

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council October 28—1768
read & concurred

T. Atkinson Jun Sec'y

*Petition of Timothy Lovell about an island opposite Charles-
town.*

Province of }
New Hamp-shire }

To his Excell^y John Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General Gov-
ernor & Commander in chief in & over his Maj^{ty} Prov-
ince afores^d In Council.

The Memorial & Petition of Timothy Lovell of Rocking-
ham in said province Humbly Shews

That your Memorialist is now the owner of & in possession of a certain Island in Connecticut River, nearly adjoining to Charlestown containing about Nine acres. that the said Island was always deemed part of the said Township of Charles-town. & so plotted to & among the Proprietors. who with those who hold under them have cultivated & mowed the same for near seventeen years last past. & never heard the Title controverted, till within a very little time past y^r Men^{list} has been informed that some persons are about to make application to Y^r Excellency & Hon^{rs} for a Grant thereof, which might be productive of much Trouble & inconvenience &c. Your Mem^{list} therefore humbly prays Y^r Excell^{cy} and honors would be pleased to suspend your Determination of this matter, in case application Should be made, untill y^r Mem^{list} might have an Opp^y to prove what he alledges relative to his Right of property & possession as afores^d And y^r Memorialist as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c

TIMOTHY LOVELL.

Portsm^o 6th April 1770

Petition in behalf of Benj^a Page for a Ferry.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, and to the Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council

The Humble Petition of Benjamin Page of Charlestown in said Province of New Hampshire Yeoman Humbly Sheweth also the Petition of the Selectmen and other of the Inhabitants of said Charlestown—praying that the said Benjamin may have the benefit of the Ferry that leads from Charlestown to Crown point (as he is settled at the Ferry as near as is convenient for a Ferry man) he is a sober well disposed person and we think he will attend the Business and be faithfull to oblige those that Travel the road. there is no house that is within half a mile of said ferry on this side the river and we Your Excellency's Petitioners Humbly pray that he may have a Charter of the same if Your Excellency and Honours shall think fit to Grant the same to him as we Judge him to be suitable for the business and Your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Jan^y 10th 1771.

Nath^l Powers
James Farnsworth
Osmon Baker
Timothy Putnam
Simon Powers
Elijah Parker
Benoni^s Spafford
Rich^d Holdin
Peter Page

W^m HEYWOOD }
JOHN HASTINGS Jr } Selectmen

William Jacobs
Sam^l Hunt
Silvanus Hastings
Enos Stevens
Lem^l Hastings
Stephen Atworde
Willard Stevens
David Taylor
Abel Walker

Petition of John Nott.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Governor & Commandor in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and to His Majestys Hon^{ble} Councinell That Whereas it Hath Bin Pleaseing to the People of Charlestown to Sign and Send to the Governor & Cownsel desiering that Ben^l Page Should have the ferey Granted to him it is also my desire that it Should be granted to him and Pray your Excellency & the Oner^l Counsel to grant it to him on this Side of the River the humble Request of John Nott who hath maintained the ferey with a good Booot on my own Cost six years

JOHN NOTT.

January the 14 1771.

Petition of Simeon Olcott for a Ferry.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General,
Governor and Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's
Province of New Hampshire &c.
In Council

Humbly Sheweth Simeon Olcott of Charlestown in said Province that there being no Ferry legally appointed and Established on Connecticut River between said Charlestown and Springfield on the opposite side of said River, by reason whereof his Majesty's Subjects are often obstructed or delayed in passing said River or exorbitant sums demanded for the same—Wherefore your Petitioner prays that he may be appointed and authorized to set up & Keep a Ferry on said River between said Charlestown and Springfield under such Orders and Regulations as in your wisdom shall be tho't fit and your Petitioner shall ever pray &c

SIMEON OLCOTT.

Portsmouth 19th March 1771.

CHESTER.

[Chester was an original town-ship of ten miles square granted Aug. 28, 1720, and was incorporated 5 May, 1722. Ed.]

Petition in behalf of the proprietors of Chester.

To the Hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq^r Lieut. Gov. Governor and Command^r in Chief in and over His Majesties Province of New Hamp^{sh} and to the Hon^{ble} the Council for said Province.

The Humble Petition of Henry Sherburne Sam^l Ingalls, John Sanborn & Tho^s Packer in Behalf of the Propriet^{rs} of the Town of Chester In said Province Humbly Sheweth

That the Propriet^{rs} of the Town of Chester afores^d about two years since Chose a Comittee to Join wth a Comittee of the Town of Londonderry to run the Line between the two Towns, which the said Comittee accordingly Begun & made some Progress in it but did not Compleat the same, by reason that the Comittee for Londonderry would not consent to allow the usual allowance (of Eleven Chains for ten for windfalls & in y^e woods) in the measure on the W. N. W. or Side Line, and would allow only bare measure which was unreasonable and never Practiced before the reason of their being so Exact is Because the Propriet^{rs} of Londonderry have Artfully contrived to have it so in their Charter as to Ingrose to them selves the

Fishing place at Ameskeegg by taking into their Town a small gore of Land at the head of Chester, running so far between the river of Merrymack and the head of Chester untill it takes in the said Fishing place, they having measured it beforehand for that purpose, their Ingrossing to themselves y^r s^d Fishing place will not only be greatly prejudicial to Chester but also to the other New Towns. Y^r Petitioners therefore Humbly pray That yo^r Honours will be pleased to appoint a Committee to run the said Lines and Settle the bounds between the said Towns in such a manner as is Customary and yo^r Petition^{rs} as in duty bound Shall ever pray

Jan^y 6th 1725-6

HEN SHURBURNE } Committee
THOMAS PACKER }
For themselves and in behalf of
SAM^l INGALLS
JOHN SANBORN

In Coun. Jan^y 8th 1725-6.

The Petition of Chester Committee this day Presented to y^r board by M^r Thom^s Packer Praying the Hon^{ble} y^r Lt Gov^r & Council to appoint a Committee to run out & Settle y^r Divisional lives & boundaries between that town & Lond Derry for the reasons therein set forth, being read It is Ordered That the hearing upon the said Petition be on Tuesday y^e 25 Inst. at y^r Coun Chamb. in Port^l and that the Petitioners serve y^e Selectmen of the s^d Town of Lond Derry wth a Copy thereof & of this order in the mean time that they may have an opportunity to shew y^e Reasons (if any they have) why the Prayer of s^d Petition may not be granted.

R Waldron Clark Con.

To be heard a Tuesday fortnight.

*Chester Committee Petition—Minutes of Council thereon,
Jan 25, 1725.*

Prov. N. Hamp^r { Present in Coun. Jan 25, 1725. 6
Lt. Gov^r Mark Hunking, K. Wibird Esq^r

The Committee of Chester appearing to prosecute their Petition for a Committee to settle y^e divisional line between y^r Town & London Derry which was filed y^e 8th Instant & Messrs Cargil & Rob^t Boyes appearing in behalf of y^e s^d Town of London Derry & both partys being fully heard It is ordered That the Prayer of y^e Petition be granted & that Mr. James Stevens be y^r Surveyor to lead y^e Course & y^e M^r Benj^a Barker Jn^l Calton be y^e Persons to carry y^e chain & that Capt. Jn^o Gillman & Mr. Edward Hale go on wth one chain man & y^e other wth y^e other & keep y^e Tally who are likewise to take care & see that due & just allowance be made in y^e measure in all cases where they shall Judge it requisite and that this busyness be performed between this time & y^e middle of June next & reported into y^e secretaries office immediately after y^e Completing thereof & y^e y^e Charge of y^e Committee be paid by y^e 2 Towns jointly & y^e y^e s^d Committee be sworn to y^e faith^l discharge of y^e Duty of y^e respective trusts according to y^e form annexed

Petition of Selectmen of Chester 15 Oct. 1726.

To the Hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq^r Lieutⁿ Govern^r Comand^r
in Chief in & over His Maj^{ty}'s Prov^{ce} of New Hamp^{sh} And
to the Hon^{ble} the Council for Said Province.

The Humble Petition of Clem^t Hughes, Rob^t Smith and
John Sanborn Selectmen of the Town of Chester Humbly
Sheweth

That Cap^t Tobias Langdon, Cap^t Tim^o Gerrish & John
Smith appointed by yo^r Hon^{rs} sometime Since to be a Committee
to run y^e Head Line of Exeter (w^{ch} is the Dividing line be-
tween s^d Exeter & Chester afores^d) did not attend the Direc-
tions of y^e Honours in that affair but followed the Directions
of y^e Select men of said Exeter therein; and having run s^d
line to y^e s^d Selectmens mind, made their return to y^e s^d Se-
lectmen instead of doing it to yo^r Hon^{rs} so that that line is as
yet unsettled to the great prejudice of the afores^d Town of
Chester

Yo^r Petition^{rs} Therefore Humbly pray yo^r Hon^{rs} to appoint
a Committee to run the two miles that Exeter is to run upon a
W by N. point above Dover and from thence upon a Straight
line to a Beach Tree (on Kingston Side Line) appointed &
marked in the year 1718 to be y^e bounds for Exeter on y^e side,
by the Grand Committee appointed by the Gen^l assembly to
fix y^e bounds of each Town within this Province which
Straight line is y^e Dividing line between Exeter & Chester,
And that yo^r Hon^{rs} would please to Direct Said Committee to
run said Line with all Convenient Speed and yo^r Petition^{rs} as
in duty bound Shall Ever pray

CLEMENT HUGHES
ROB^t SMITH
JOHN SANBORN.

Portsm^o Oct^r 15th 1726.

Report on Petition for a road.

Province)
New Hampshire }

Pur-uant to a Vote of the General Court Baring Date May 26th 1743
To us the Subscribers a Committee appointed by the General Court to
go up to Chester and Londonderry to View a highway formerly Laid out
by Chester and Londonderry and recorded in Each Town and also a
Nother way Petitioned for by Chester, and to make Report of our
Doings therein to the Gen^l Ass^m att their next sessions

Wee haveing been up and Viewed Both Ways and Doe find that the
way formerly Laid out from Londonderry to Chester, Between the lands
of Mess^{rs} James Colwell and Patrick Duglass to Derry Northeasterly
line And then on a Straight line through the land of ——— Brown of
Chester to meet the Road, that leads by Deacon Dearbourns to Chester
Meeting house is the Most Convenient way for accommodation of Both

Towns aforesaid and for Travellers in General Dated this 22^d Day of Sept. 1743.

John Downing Jr.
Geo Walton
Richard Jennes

In the House of representatives May 26th 1743.

The within Petition read & a former Petition of the Select men of Chester read relating to the same affairs and the Petitioners & the Select men of Londonderry respondents heard by the Council and

Voted That their be a Committee Sent to View the highways Viz That which is Laid out & that which is Petitioned to be Laid out and the s^d Committee to make returne to the General Assembly at their next Sessions which place is most proper for a high way and upon the Committees returne to Consider who Shall pay the Charge And that George Waldron & Richard Jennes Esq be a Committee from this House to Joyn such as the Hon^{ble} the Council Shall appoint to do the Service above^s

James Jeffrey Cl^r Ass^m

Eodem Die

In Council read & Concurr'd & Joseph Sherburne & John Downing Esq^r added to the Committee above^s

Theod Atkinson Secy.

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

Copy Ex^a

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

In the House of Representatives 7^{br} 23^d 1743

The within Return read, and accepted And

Voted That the Highway, as therein mentioned & Described, be the Kings High way, and that all obstructions in or on said high way be Removed, and that the same be allowed to be a Publick Road, and that the Petitioners of Chester pay the Charg of the Comitee that went on the Spot Each pson thirty Shillings (old Tenor) pr Diem for their Labor & Charge, And that the said Petitioners of Chester pay the said Charge to some or one of the said Comitee within thirty days after the Date hereof.

James Jeffrey Cl^r Ass^m

In Council September 23d 1743
read & Concured

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Eodem Die

Assented To B. WENTWORTH

Memorandum the High Way Laid out and Recorded from Chester to Londonderry by Sam^l Browns the length is one mile and a Half and sixty Rhods

The way by Kars mills as was showed to us but not Laid out was two miles and fifty two Rhods

dated at Chester

August y^e 23^d 1743

Sam^l Emerson } Chare men
Thomas Cochran } upon oath

The Highway that is Laid out and Recorded, went acrost Samuel Browns Land as we measured: He Promised to give said Land for a High way to the town of Chester without any other Satisfaction than not to Have s^d High way goe by his house

The way by Kars mills as we measured went first acrost James Col-

well's Land (2 $\frac{1}{2}$ acrost Capt Moses Land—3 $\frac{1}{2}$ acrost John Karrs Land (4 $\frac{1}{2}$ acrost John Karr Junr's Land (5 $\frac{1}{2}$ acrost Robt Gillcreast Land (6 $\frac{1}{2}$ acrost John Karr Junr's Land.

Chester Petition in relation to the Ministry.

To his Excellency Jonathan Bolcher Esq^r Governour & In and Over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire. The Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General Court now Assembled at Portsmth

The Petition of the Town of Chester Humbly Sheweth That whereas after the Rev^d M^r Eb^r Flagg was settled in said Town by Vote according to y^e directions of the Law to be the Gospel Minister. A considerable number of persons Petition the General Court for an explanation of the law of Liberty Supposing they being Presbyterians were exempted from paying to Mr Flag which was then explain'd in their favour. Since which they have accordingly proceeded in a cordial manner, and have endeavour'd to take the best method the present Circumstances will admit to Rais money for the Respective ministers, as follows at a Town Meeting warn'd for that purpose when met they Voted Separately M^r Flaggs Salary; and the Presbetyrians voted a Salary for the Rev^d Mr. Jn^o Wilson their Minister the Selectmen Sign'd the Respective warrants to y^e Constable or Collectors to collect the Same if this Method be agreeable we Humbly pray yo^r approbation. But if anything in our proceedings hitherto is short of what is Necessary in the Law we humbly entreat a favourable construction and pray that the presbeterians may be Qualify'd Lawfully to proceed for the future. Also if it be Necessary for M^r Flags hearers to proceed in any other method than hitherto pray for particular direction as to yo^r Excellency and Honours shall appear needful Also we pray that y^e day of the annual meeting may be altered to som other day of y^e week to escape interfering with the Fast^s which will oblige yo^r Humble Petitioners

JOHN CALFE	} Selectmen of Chester
JOHN TOLFORD	
EPHRAIM HASSELTINE	
ENOCH COLEBY	

Province of) In the House of Representatives
New Hampshire) the within Petition Read &

Vot^d That the Prayer of the within Petition be granted in the following manner Viz.

Vot^d That the Two Congregations in Chester viz: that are called Congregationalists and those that are called Presbyterians have power to act Seperate in Raiseing money for Support of y^e Ministers Respectively for Defraying the Charges of building & Repairing their meeting

houses and that they have power to Chuse Wardens Seperate to assess all persons and their Estates belonging to their Respective Congregations as aforesaid Toward Defraying Such Charges as shall be Raised for the aforesaid uses Seperate in Just & Equall Proportion, to such Tax & Taxes as they shall Vote from time to time at their Respective Meetings And that they have power to Choose Collectors Seperate to Collect the said Taxes and that they have Liberty to bring in a bill accordingly and that John Calf, Eph Hazilton Enoch Coleby, be impow-ered to call the first meeting for the Congregationall and that Cap^t Sam^l Ingolls John Telford John Carr be impow'd to call ther list meeting for Presbetering meeting

James Jeffrey Cl^r Ass^m

August 6th 1740

In Council Eodem Die

Read & Concurred

Ric^d Waldron Secy

Same day Assented to

J. BELCHER

Petition for aid of soldiers.

To the honourable Captins of Chester Greeting

Whereas there is a Considerable number of famelis scattered in the wilderness in the out skirts of Chester Some lives four miles and a half some three and a half (& 6 from any help) we are so scattered that we think we are very unfit to live as we have duud nevertheless we would be willing to imitat something of the spirit of the people of Zebulon and Naphtleen who Joperded their lives in the high places of the field and whereas we have a velow for our loss and libertise we Earnestly beg that your honours would look upon us in our Des- trees and help with some suliars a certain number we are not willing to name your selves Knowing our surcumstances and how it is with us believes you will help us this way more then we with prudence could name and in so doing your Poore pettioners will ever Pray if no help Coms we must leave our houses and homs and goe lik scattered Sheep.

James Besford
David McCluer
John Precut
Jebesh French

Jonas Clay
John Clay
David McClure
Jacob Basford

To the Hon^{ls} Cap^{ts} of Chester, greeting.

Whereas we y^r Subscribers live Remote from the town and for some years past have been obliged to leave our places for want of a sufficient number of men to Keep a garrison which has been greatly to our damage and we being desirous to live here if we can have three or four men to help support a garrison

We Remain yours to serve,

Ithamar Cary
Zachariah Butterfield
Stephen Webster
Aaron Butterfield

Philip Grifen
Joshua Hall
Allet Bary

To the Captains of Chester:

We the subscribers earnestly Requests your Aid and assistance in petitioning the General Court for some help yourselves Knowing how we are scattered And how far a Distance from the meeting house some 7 some 8 some 9 miles from it Gentle men we are your humble servants

William Ollcot?
Walter Macfarlan
William Grinel

William McClintok
Nathaniel Boyd
Micheall McClintok.

Tolford & Wells' Petition.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire the Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened the Tenth day of May 1748

The Petition of John Tolford and Thomas Wells of Chester in the Province of New Hampshire in behalf of the Inhabitants of s^t Chester most humbly Shews That the s^t Town of Chester is exposed to the Indian Enemy and sundry of the Dwelling houses in s^t Town so exposed that unless there be more men to defend them than the Town itself can afford they will unavoidably be obliged to leave them and their lands also That thereby the Enemy will gain an advantage and the Frontier be bro't nearer the Center That Sundry Persons who live in the outskirts of said Town have pray'd for help as by their respective Petitions hereunto annexed and herewith presented may more fully appear. Wherefore your Petitioners Most humbly pray your Excellency and Honours to allow such a number of men for the Defence and protection of s^t Town as in your great wisdom shall be tho't reasonable

JOHN TOLFORD
THO^s WELLS.

In Council May 11 1748.
read & Sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House
Theo. Atkinson Secy

Minutes of Chester town meeting Mar. 29, 1753.

At a meeting of the free holders and Inhabitants of the Town of Chaster held at Chaster the 29th Day of March 1753 Capt. Abel mors being moderator for said meeting amongst other things

Voted that the after mentioned tract of Land may be Incorporated into a Parash Beginning at Londonderry Line at a Stake and stones being the South west Bound of Land Sold to Thomas Cochran by the proprietors of said Chaster and run strait to a pitch pine tree being the

South west bound of Nathaniel Halls Land by penicook path than north north East By said Halls Land as far as that gos and then Strate to the South East Corner of the 3^d Lote in the Second part of the second division than North 29 Degrees East to the north east bound of the 43^d Lote in the afforesaid devision then west north west to tower hill pond and then strate to the north East Corner of Darefeld then South by Derryfeld to Londondary Line to the first Bound mentioned

A true Copy Taken from Chaster town Book of Record as ates to

SAMUEL EMERSON
town Clark

Petition of Andrew Craige of Chester. 9 Mar. 1757.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor & Commander In Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for saide Province in General Assembly Convened the Ninth Day of March 1757

The Humble Petition of Andrew Craige of Chester in said Province One of the Select men of said Town for the Year 1756 In behalf of himself & the other Select men of said Town for said Year Shews

That by the Treasurers Warrant to the said Select to Levy the said Towns Proportion of the Province Tax for said year Several Different Sums are mentioned & ordered to be Levied and Paid into the Treasury at Different times and there are also two Sums Each of £ 203 : 2 which the said Select were ordered as aforesaid to Raise which they by mistake took to be the same sum only twice mentioned in said Warrant by which Mistake the said Sum therein Last Mentioned is Omitted & no Tax has been made for Raising the same whereby the Said Town Falls so much in arrears to the Treasury

That the time Limited in said Warrant for Paying in the Said sum is Past & the Omission so Lately Discovered that the said Selectmen could not make a New Tax & Comite the Same Seasonably to be Collected before the annual Meeting at which new officers may be Chosen and the Present Town Officers Superseded besides that it would have Perhaps Occasioned Some Disputes & Differences in said Town. Wherefore your Petitioner most Humbly Prays That as this Omission is the Effect of Inadvertence & not of Design the said Selectmen may be Excused & Exempted from the Penalty of the Law in such Cases Provided That the Treasurer may be ordered to suspend Issuing an extent against them for this arrearage but that the said Town may have further time for the Payment thereof that the Selectmen that may be Chosen for the Present Year may be authorized to Levy the Same with the Tax for this Year in the Same manner as it Ought to have been done in the Year Past and that a Resolve of the whole

Legislature may be Past for this Purpose or if that should be tho't Insufficient That your Petitioner may have Leave to bring in a Bill accordingly or that you would be Pleased to Grant Such other Relief in the Premises as in Your Great Wisdom & Goodness you shall judge Expedient and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c

AND^w CRAIGE.

In Council March 9th 1757

read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Sec.

Province of) In the house of Representatives March 10th 1757

New Hamps) This Petition having been read & the Petitioner being fully heard thereon

Resolved That the prayer thereof be granted & that the Petitioner have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die

read & Concurr'd

Theod. Atkinson Secy.

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

ADVERTISEMENT.

These are to notify and warn the free holders and Inhabitants of the Town of Chester Qualified for Voting to assemble and meet at the old Meeting house in Chester upon Wedne-day the Twenty sixth Day of this Instant January at one of the Clock in the afternoon of s^t Day 1st To chuse a moderator for said meeting 2^d To see if the Town will Vote of that part of the Town called the north Parish or freetown so called to be a Town or Parish by themselves or to act and Do what shall be Thought proper in that affair

Dated at Chester January 12th 1763

JOHN WEBSTER	} Selectmen of Chester
BRADBURY CARR	
MATHEW FORSAITH	

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Chester held at Chester January 26th 1763 agreeable to the fore going Warning

Voted Deacon Ebenezer Dearborn moderator for said meeting

2^d Voted Sam^l Robie Clerk pro tempore for said meeting

Voted That That part of the Town of Chester Called the north Parish or freetown as much as was Laid out in Parrish forme shall be set of as a Town or Parrish

A True Copy Taken from Chester Town Book of Records

Attest

SAM^l EMERSON Town Clerk

*The Petition of the Inhabitants of the North parish in
Chester. June 14. 1763.*

To His Excellency Benning Wintworth Esq^r Governor and
Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of
New hampshire The Hon^{ble} his Majesties Councill and the
Honourable House of Representatives in Generall Assembly
Conven'd;

The Petition of us The Subscribers Inhabitants of that part
of Chester Call^d The North parish or freetown, Humbly
Sheweth

That your Petitioners Living at such a great Distance from
the Town, That they have no advantage of the Ministry nor
Schools notwithstanding they have for many years Paid There
proportion. To the Support of Boath and the Town being
sensible That It would be Just for us To be freed from that
Charge have at a meeting held at Chester Jan^y 26; 1763.

Voted That, that Part of the Town of Chester call'd The
North parrish or freetown. as much as was Laid out in parrish
form. shall be Sett of as a Town or Parrish the bounds of s^d
North Parrish so call'd are as fol^l beginning at the north East
Corner of Chester upon the head line of Exeter at a beach or
maple Tree being the bounds between Chester and Nottingham.
So Running South ab. 29 Degrees west bounding on
Exeter head line five miles to the South East Corner of the
Lott N. 30. then west north west five miles or so far as to con-
tain all the old hundred acre Lotts then North 29 Degrees
East Five Miles To Notting^g Line then on s^d Line to the first
bound

We therefore Pray That all the Land Included in s^d Bound,
with all the poles & Estates therein Containd may be Incorporated
into a distink Parrish from the Town of Chester and be
Invested with Same powers and Priveledges That Towns in
This Province are by Law Intitled To and That we may have
Liberty to bring in a bill accordingly and your Petitioners as
in Duty bound shall ever Pray

March 1st 1763.

Daniel Gordin
Daniel Holman
Elisha Towle
Jonathan Brown
Simeon Bery
Noah Moulton
Wadleigh Cram
Joseph Giles
Daniel Lane
Ezekiel Lane
David Lane
Nathan Moulton
Josiah Fogg

Daniel Clay
Stephen Marden
Obidiah Grifen
Moses Sanborn
Caleb Row?
Robart Page
John Sweet
Daniel Robie
Jonas Clay
Stephen Wesson
Jethro Bachelder
Benjⁿ Whittier
Clement Dollof

Daniel Gordan Jr.
John Cram
Alex. Melvin
Stephen Fogg
Benjamin Smith
James Fullenton
Samuel Cram
John Stevens
Jonathan Dearborn
Benia Bean
——? Moody
Benjamin Brown
Miles Bean
Isaac Clifford

Paul Smith Marston
Benjamin Prscut
John Fullenton
John Wells
John Prscot Junr
William Todd
Timothy Clough
Ezekiel Smith
David Bean
Alexander Smith
Barten Pollard
David Been Junr
Nathaniel Ethridge
Enoch Fogg.

In Council June 14th 1763

Read & Sent down to the Hon^{ble} assembly

T. Atkinson Jun. Secy.

Province of) In the house of Representatives Dec^r 1st 1763

New Hamp^{sh}) This petition being read

Voted That the petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the Sitting of the Gen. Assembly Next after the 25th Inst & that they Cause the Substance of this petition & order of Court thereon to be advertised In the New Hamps^h Gazette two weeks successively that any person concerned may appear & Shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

A. Clarkson Clerk.

In Council Eodem Die

read & concurred

Theo Atkinson Secy.

Province of) In the House of Representatives Apr. 12, 1764.

New Hamps^h) This Petition & order of the Court thereon being read

Voted That the prayer thereof be granted & that, the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson Clerk

Petition for a Parish.

Province of)
New Hampshire)

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council and house of Representatives in general Assembly convened

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Northwesterly part of Chester in the province afores^d Most humbly Sheweth that the Situation of the place where we live is such that we cannot without Much Difficulty attend the publick worship of God with our famillys in good Weather and at many times in the year not at all. And the Town of Chester being Sensible of our Difficulties have pass'd a Vote

in their Annual Meeting the 25th of March 1762 that we should be set off from them as a Distinct parish about five miles and a half in Length and about four miles in Breadth as followeth, viz) Bounding Northerly upon Nottingham line Easterly on the old Hundred acre lotts so called, Southerly on the Long Meadow parish as that is voted off already, and westerly on the forty acre lotts. Wherefore we pray that we may be Incorporated into a parish agreeable to the above mentioned Bounds and be Invested with all those privelidges that other parishes have within this province The granting of which we Humbly Conceive will be a great benefitt too your Humble petitioners and our familys And your petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray

Chester March 22^d Anno Dominie 1763

Benjaⁿ Batchelder
Sam^l Mooers
William Putned?
Winthrop Wells
Jonathan Hills
Samuel Towle
John Clay
Moses Baker
Thomas Sargent
Stephen Webster
Joseph Smith
Jeremiah Bean
Zebed Barey
Enoch Coleby
Moses Sweet?
Nath^l Emerson
John Sargent
Jonathan Been
Benj^l Smith

James M^cClure
Nicklus Smith
Jonathan Towle
Phineas Towle
Stephen Palmer
Nath^l Ingalls
Abraham Fitts
Jacob Sergeant
Theophilus Clough
Sherburne Rowe
Ichabod Robie
John Karr
Asel Quimbey
Elisha Been
Thomas Chretchet
Gilman Dudley
David Hills
Samuel Eastman
Zachariah Clefford

In Council June 2^d 1763

Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House

T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Province of) In the house of Representatives June 2^d 1763

New Hamps) This petition being read

Ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the Sitting of the General Assembly after the first Day of Aug. next & that they cause the substance of this petition & order of Court thereon to be advertized in the New Hampshire Gazette three weeks successively, that any persons concerned may appear & Shew Cause if Any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Province of) In the house of Representatives Dec 2^d 1763

New Hamps) This Petition being Read

Voted that the prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

Eodem Die in Council

read & Concurred

Theed Atkinson Jr Sec.

Petition to confirm bounds, &c.

Province of New Hampshire

Chester Dec^r 1771

To His Exelency John Wintworth Esq^r Captain Generall & Governor in & over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire &c To the Honourable his Majesties Council & House of Representatives Now assembled

The Petition of us the Subscribers Being in Number the Greatest Part of a Distric or Parish Commonly Called the Long Meadows Humbly Sheweth that being by a Vote of this Town in the Anuel Meting in the month of March A D. 1753 Voted of for a Parish By Certain Limited Bounds More Clearly set forth in said Vote the Copsy of Which Being Ready to Be Produced, Humbly Prayeth that Your Exelency & Honours would be Pleased to Confirm & Establish said Vote & Bounds, and Grant Unto Us all Parish Privelidges with full Power to Hier a Gospell Minister to Preach Unto us, or to Settle & Ordain one Over us for the Better Conveniency of our attending the Publick Worship of God. and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray

John Patten
Nathaniel Linn
John Orr
Robert Craig
Samuel Dinsmor
Wells Chase
Barnard Brickett
Stephen Derbon
Nathaniel Wood?
Joseph Calfe
Samuel Blunt
Mansfield McDoffy
Daniel Weatherspoon
Sam^l Aiken
Rob^t Calfe
Anthony Stickney
Robert Witherspoon
David White
Will^m Litch
Joseph Linn
Caleb Hall
Moody Chase
Moses Hills
David Wetherspoon
Peter Aiken
James Weatherspoon

Thomas Fowler
Thomas Fowler Junr.
Hugh McAtfee
Nathaniel Pre-bury
Mark
James N. Horn
His
Benj Peirce
Samuel Peirce
Robert McKinley
Stephen Merrill
William McMaster
Moses Underhill
Hugh Crombie
Robert Patton
Thomas Sharlay
James Sharlay
Samuel Sharlay
Robert Gilcrest
Joseph Dearben
Moses McFarland
William Grimes
John Grimes
Adam Willson
James Grimes
W^m Brown Junr.

In Council Dec^r 19th 1771

The foregoing Petition was read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

Geo. King Dep. Sec.

In the House of Representatives Dec^r 19, 1771

Voted that the Petition^{rs} at their own cost Serve the Selectmen of Chester with a Copy of this Petition & order of Court thereon that they may be heard & Shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer thereof should not be granted on the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l assembly after the 10th day of February next

Attest W^m Parker Clr.

In Council Dec 19th 1771

Read & Concurrd

Geo. King D. Sec.

Chester Dec. the 24. 1771

We the Selectmen of Chester Have this Day rec^d this Petition

JOHN ROBIE) Selectmen

NATHAN WEBSTER j of Chester

[The following is a copy of the Vote above referred to:]

At a meeting of the free holders and inhabitants of the Town of Chester, the 29th day of March 1753. last. Capt. Abel Morss being moderator for said meeting:—amongst other things,

Voted, That the after mentioned tract of land may be in corporated into a Parrish, Beginning at Londonderry Line at a Stake and stones being the South West bound of Land sold to Thomas Cochran by the Proprietors of said Chester, and run straight to a pitch-pine tree being the south west bound of Nathaniel Halls Land by Penicook path, then north north-east by said Halls Land as far as that goes, and then straight to the south-east corner of the 30th Lot in the second part of the second Division; then North 29 Degrees east to the North-east bound of the 43rd Lot in the aforesaid division, then west norwest to Tower Hill pond, and then straight to the north-east corner of Derrifield, then south by Derrifield to Londonderry Line and so by Londonderry Line to the first bound mentioned.

A true copy taken from Chester Town Book of Record, as Attests
SAM EMERSON, Town Clerk.

[The following names appear to be connected with the foregoing. ED.]

Nath ^l Linn	Hugh Crumblie one son
Capt. Anth Stickney	John Patten
Rob ^t Calfe	Tho ^s McMaster one
Joseph Linn	David Dickey
James Wetherspun	W ^m Gillerest
Alex Sawyer	W ^m McMaster
Thomas Fowler 1 son	Rob ^t Patten
Arch ^d McDuffee	Stephen Morl
Dan ^l Wetherspoon	Alex Kinecom
Hugh McDuffee 2 sons	And ^r McFarlin one
James Harne	Moses McFarlin
Nath ^l Presbey one son	W ^m Grimes & one son
Benj Parce & one Son	John Grimes
W ^m Brown	James Grimes
Jer Coner	Joseph Calfe
Sam ^l Akin one son	Mose Hills
Peter Akin	W ^m Litch
David Wether-spoone	Jesse Harriman
Rob Craig	John Macfarlin
Math Tempelton	Thor Sharlow 4 sons
Rob ^t McKinly	Dea Adam Willson 2 sons
David Dinesmoor & 3 sons	John Crafford
William Miller	Moses Underhill

James Hilden one son
 Barnard Bricket
 Alex Beery
 Alex Sevey
 Joseph Dearborn
 Caleb Hall
 Cap. Stephen Dearbon
 Mosey Chase
 Welles Chase
 Nath Woods
 W^m Underhill
 David Underhill
 W^m Craig
 Rob^t Cran
 John Craig

John Orr
 Rob^t Wetherspone
 Sam^l Desmoer
 David White
 Joshua Blunt
 Sam^l Suesedr?
 Mansfield McDuffee
 Mical Gorden
 James Akin
 W^m McNell
 W^m Vance
 W^m Miller
 Hugh & James Miller
 James Litch

Famelys 72—Poles 22

Memorandum.

Agreed upon by the Subscribers Chosen as a Comitee for the Presbetrain Parish in Chester part from y^e Lower End of y^e town and part from y^e Long Meadow so call'd viz: that y^e Long Meadow part so call'd is to have have y^e one half of y^e Preching for Nine months from y^e first of March to y^e first of December During y^e time that the Rev^d John Wilson is able to Preach and y^e Remainder to the Lower End of y^e town, and that y^e Long Meadow party is to pay y^e Sum of twenty pounds Lawful money yearly During the Rev^d John Wilsons ministry and Collect y^e part of y^e money them selves and y^e Lower End of y^e town to pay twenty five pounds, and Collect there one money them selves.

Chester April y^e 20th 1772.

N. B.—Each party Bound in Bonds to proform y^e above agreement or apply to the Generl Cort to Establish the agreement according to y^e above themselves.

MATH ^w FORSAITH	} Committee for the Presbetrain Parish
THOMAS McMASON	
ROB ^t WILSON	
HENRY MOORE	
JOSEPH LINN	

Answer to the Petition for a Parish being set off.

Province of }
 New Hamp'sre }
 Rockingham Ss }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Capt. Gen^l Governor & Comm^r in chief in & over s^d Province. The Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council, & House of Representatives in Gen^l Assembly Conven'd May 9th 1772

The Answer of Andrew Jack, Henry Morse, & Robert Wilson Gentlemen, a Committee in behalf of the Presbyterian

Parish in Chester in said County to the Petition of John Patten & others, petitioners for a Parish to be set off in said Chester as by their Petition dated Dec^r 11th 1771, will more fully appear Humbly Sheweth, That whereas the Parishioners of said Presbyterian Parish have been cited to Shew cause why the prayer of said Petition should not be granted—We, in behalf of said Parish appear, and beg leave to suggest to your Excellency & Honors that s^d Petitioners Join'd with the rest of said Parish in the Choice of the Rev^d John Wilson for their Minister and voted him a certain Yearly Salary and have been, and still are well satisfied with his life and Doctrines, but for other Reasons they desire to be set off as a distinct Parish, altho' they are convinced it is their duty to perform their contract with said Minister, & in Consequence thereof did, at a legal meeting held at s^d Chester, mutually agree with the rest of said Parishioners in the lower End of the Parish to have one half the Preaching for nine months yearly from the first day of March, to the first day of December during the time that the said Minister was able to preach, and the remainder of his Preaching should be to the People of the lower end of said Parish and that the said Petitioners pay the sum of Twenty pounds lawful money yearly during the ministry of the said John Wilson, and collect that part of the money themselves, and the Parishioners at the lower End of said Parish Then agreed with said Petitioners to pay to s^d Minister Twenty five pounds like money Yearly during said Term, and to collect the same themselves. Now we in behalf of the lower End of said Parish have no objection to the prayer of said Petition being granted so far as it respects their being set off as a distinct parish, provided they continue to fulfil their agreement before mentioned by paying to s^d Minister duly the said sum by them agreed to pay him. But inasmuch as the lower end of the Parish are utterly incapable of maintaining a Minister *themselves* they pray that said Petitioners may not be freed from paying the sum aforesaid agreeable to their before ment^d contract

May 21 1772.

AND^w JACK

HENRY MOORE

} Committee in
behalf of the
Presbyterean
Parish in Chester

The Long meadow Parrish ought to be Bounded thus: Beginning at Londonderry Line at a Stake and Stones Being the South West Bound of Land sold to Thomas Cochran by the Proprietors of Chester and Run Streight to a pick pine tree being the

South west bound of Nathaniel Halls Land by Penicook path then north north east by said Halls' Land as far as that goes and then streight to the South East Corner of the 39th Lot in the second part of the second Diviseon, then north 29 degrees East to the North east bound of the 43^d lot in the afforesaid Division and then west nor west bounding on Candia Crossing Tower Hill pond. to a Stake and stones being the South West Corner of Candia then north 29 Degrees East Bounding on Candia to Nottingham Line, and then west nor west upon the Northerly Line of the Town to Merrimack River, then South upon the Westerly Line of the Town to Derrifield So Bounding on Derrifield to Londonderry Line and so on that to the first bounds mentioned We the Subscribers the Present Select men for the town of Chester have no objection to make as a town a Ganst a parish being set of agreeable to the aBove Bounds or so as to Enclude all the Land Belonging to Said town Laying above what was voted of as a parish So that the town may not be obliged to Cross Said parish in order to transact bisness as a town so Remote and Ilconvenient

SAM^l ROBIE) Selectmen
JOSEPH TRUE) of Chester

Chester May y^e 20 1772

Further Petition.

Chester Jan. 7 1773

To John Wintworth Esqr. Capt. Generall and Governor in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire &c To the Honourable his Majesties Counsell and House of Representatives now Assembled

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Sheweth that whereas we the Last year Petioned your Exelency and Honours to be Incorporated Into a Parish by a Line Voted by this Town at their Anuel Meeting in March A. D. 1753 or by any other Line or Destrict your Exelency & Honours Shall think Best for the Better Inabling us to attend and Provide for the Publick Worship of God but still finding Ourselves Labouring Under Greate Difficultys in that Respect by Reason of the Distance we are at from the Lower Meting House where our Rev^d Teacher Mr. Wilson Officiates his age and Infermity of Body being such that for three months in the year we are wholely without a Teacher the other part of time having but about half the Teaching which occasions us to Repeate this our Humble Petition Praying that your Exelency and Honours would be Pleased to here us and Relieve us out of our said

Difficultys and your Petitioners will as in Deuty Bound Ever pray

Anthony Stickney
Timothy Lunt
Edmund Stickney
Peter Akin
David Wetherspoon
Joseph Linn
Nathaniel Linn
Hugh McDuffee
Joseph Blanchard
Moses Underhill
Caleb Hall
James Hidder
John Patten
Robert Patten
Robert Calfe
Benj. Peirce *

Sam^l Aken
W^m Brown
Nathaniel Presby
James Horne
his \propto mark
James Wetherspoon
Sam^l Aken Junr.
Mansfield McAfee
Robert Gilcrest
William Litch
Joseph Calfe
Hugh Miller
Daniel Wetherspoon
Archibald Mockatee
Moses McFarland

Province of)
New Hamps) In the House of Representatives Jan^r 23 1773

Voted that the Petition^{rs} Serve the Select men of Chester with a Copy of the Petition & order of Court thereon & that they may be heard thereon the third day of the setting of the Gen^l Assembly after the first day of April

William Parker Cler Ass^m

In Council eodem die

Read & concurd

Geo King D. Sec

In the house of Representatives May 13 1773.

the Petitioners were heard to Enforce this Petition and a part of the Inhabitants heard in Answer and considering the circumstances of the People

Voted that the Petition be Dismiss'd

William Parker Cler

Chester March y^e 23 1773

This day serv'd with y^e within Petition greccable to order of Cort
Sam^l Robie) Selectinen
Joseph True) of Chester

Province of)
New Hampshire) A Humble Petition to the Great & General Court
11 Mar. 1773) Humbly *Sheweth*

That whereas, a petition has formerly been presented unto the great and General Court of this province by a number of the inhabitants of that part of Chester commonly called the Long meadow, and that the said petition setteth forth the great inconveniency the inhabitants labour under by being at such a distance, from the two several meeting Houses belonging to the said town of Chester, and that they the said inhabitants are thereby often prevented from hearing the word of God preached & therefore they have presumed to Pray the Great &

General Court to Incorporate them into a separate parish by themselves. At a late public meeting of said inhabitants of said part of the town of Chester, they convened and almost voted unanimously a positive resolve, that the former said petition should be dormant: for they the inhabitants maturely considered the great hardships they already laboured under (tho' considered as part joined with the whole Town) and that if such a plan was put in execution, they would be rendered incapable of answering the intention of said former petition, and at the same time lay themselves under many more difficulties not only of being deprived of hearing the word of God preached amongst them (which is at present faithfully done twice every Month by the Rev^d Mr. Wilson) but the small probability of being unanimous in their choice which at present they are happily united. And further as the said former Petition was clandestinely propagated amongst the inhabitants by designing men whose aim was only self interest, consequently enemies to the body politic, when they consider themselves if separated from the rest of the Town of the aforesaid Chester not to exceed above fifty or sixty families, and those (most of them at least) in circumstances very incapable of bearing such taxes as they must necessary undergo under such a scheme.

Therefore, the Several Inhabitants, deliberating upon the many circumstances there anent Hereby Humbly subplicates that the Great and General Court, will be pleased to view the former presented Petition as propagated by a few persons dissenting from the community purely to gratify their own humour and that the above said Great and General Court, will deliver us from being imposed upon by such who are enemies to our happy constitution and Your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Chester Mar. 11, 1773

James Sharley
John McFarland
James Litch
Mansfield McAffee
John Craford
Moses Underhill
John Orr
William Vance
Mathew Templeton
Robert Craige
Robert McKinley
Stephen Merrill
Stephen Derben
Moody Chase
Nathanael Wood
Joseph Dearben
Moses Hills
David Underhill
David Cunningham

Samuel Blunt
William Craig
John Craig
Thomas Sharley
Jerimia Coner
David Dinsmoor
Arthur Dinsmore
Robert Dinsmore
Thomas McMaster
Thomas McMaster Jr.
William McMaster
David Dickey
Aron Rollings
William Gilcrest
William Miller
James Miller
Michael Gordon
Andrew MacFarland
James McFarland

Chester April y^r 24th 1773

To the Wardens of the presbeterian parish in Chester, Gentlemen
 the Request of your humble Subscribers is that you Would be pleased
 as soon as possible to call a parish meeting that the Disputes Concern-
 ing the Sitting off of the long meadow May be laid before the parish in
 General for to see If the Lower part of the parish will assist anything
 in Keeping the parish Conected as It now is pray Gentlemen Dont
 Neglect and in so Doing you Will oblige your humble Servants

David Dickey
 Thomas Sherly
 Mathew Templeton
 Robert McKinley
 David Dinsmore

William Miller
 Hugh Miller
 William Gilcrest
 Thomas McMaster
 Willam McMaster

To His Exelancy John Wintworth Esqr. Capt. generall and
 governor and Comander in Cheaff of His Majesties Province
 of New Hampshire &c

Thee Humball Pertion of Daniel Foster of Chester, in New
 Hampshior Sheweth that your Humball Pertioner Douth Pray
 That your Exelancy would Be Pleased to Grant me your Hum-
 ball Pertioner The Priveledge of a Ferry over Merrinack
 River aGainst my Dwelling Howes in Chester and against the
 upper end of Goffstown there Being No Ferry Below Their
 while we cum to Amasquage Falls which is Six Mills Below
 and their is no Ferry Above their for above four Mills which
 is against Pembrock Town and This Place is Citewate where
 it will greatly acomidate the People That Travill to or from
 gofstown Dunbarton Bowtown and HopKingtown and many
 other Towns above Their

I should be glad to serve the Publick in this Thing as your
 Humball Pevtioner in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

DANIEL FOSTER

CHESTERFIELD.

[Chesterfield was granted February 11, 1752; the first settlement was made Nov.
 15, 1761. Ed.]

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Cap^t Gen^l and
 Govern^r in chief &c and to the Hon^{ble} His Majesty Coun-
 cil of said Province

By this Memorial—

Humbly shews Joseph Warren of Boston in the Province of
 the Massachusetts Bay Physician Administrator of Nathaniel

Wheelwright late of said Boston merchant dec^d and which said Nathaniel was sole Executor of the Testament of the Hon John Wheelwright late of Boston aforesaid Esq^r dec^d

Your Memorialist humbly begs leave to make mention to your Excellency and Hon^s that very lately he by the greatest accident was informed that one Mr. Willard had petitioned your Excellency & Hon^s to Grant him a certain large Quantity of Land heretofore Granted to John Wheelwright and others, and for reasons in said petition mentioned which your Mem^o conceives of to be more specious than real, y^e Memorialist after mentioning a fact or two, will without saying a word more submit it to your Excellency's & Hon^s Just determination. In the first place it is since this Mr. Willard's preferring his Petitions that your Memorialist knew that his Intestate or his Testator ever had any Land, in your Excellency's Government (lying if your memorialist is rightly informed at place call'd Chesterfield or else where) be that as it may, your Excellency & Hon^s will view him as the administrator of an Executor. And how the affairs of M^r Nathaniel Wheelwright the Intestate were circumstanced at his putting off and death, is not a thing unknown to almost every body in the *free* provinces—and that there are many heavy demands made upon your Mem^o as administrator of the said Nathaniel Wheelwright to the amount of a Great Many Thousand pounds sterling is too obvious to be disputed even by Mr. Willard himself—And your Mem^o begs leave to assure y^e Excellency & Honours, that he will make a point of it, and most punctually comply with the Conditions of the Grant of said Lands or the charter as it is otherwise called with all convenient speed (or as your Excellency & Honours shall direct) in order to make payment of the vast sums (as far as these Lands will go) to the multitude of the said Nathaniels creditors in proportion, for which reasons, if the said Mr. Willard has not the native modesty to pray that his most extraordinary misconceived pt^l may be by him withdrawn, your Mem^o has the Modest assurance to hope that your Excellency & Hon^s will dismiss the same as groundless & unreasonable

Your Mem^o is also attorney to Mr. Joseph Wheelwright one of the sons & heirs of the afores^d Ju^r Wheelwright dec^d and which s^d Joseph has amply paid a person in New Hampshire Governm^t to do the needful and to which your Mem^o will have a peculiar regard & care &c which said Joseph Wheelwright is now in London

All which is submitted by SAMUEL SWIFT attorney to s^d Jo^s Warren Adm^r

Boston July 3^d 1771.

Col. Josiah Willard's Petition for sundry rights in Chesterfield.

Province of)
New Hampshire }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General
Governor and Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's
Province aforesaid and vice Admiral of the same In Council

The petition of Josiah Willard of Winchester Esq^r Humbly
shews

That there are sundry Grantees (viz) John Wheelwright, Joseph Wheelwright, Jeremiah Wheelwright, Nathaniel Wheelwright, Thomas Paine John Annes & Oliver Butler of a Tract of Land. charter'd and granted by the Governor of the province aforesaid with advice of his Majesty's Council and Incorporated into a Township by the name of Chesterfield and which said Tract was by Charter to be held and enjoyed in severalty and divided to and amongst the Grantees in equal shares and upon their separate performance of sundry conditions and reservations particularly mentioned and stipulated in the said Grant, and tho' the Time prefixed in the said Grant for the performance of the said Conditions has been elapsed, yet so it is that at this Time neither the residence of the Grantees above mentioned nor the cultivation of the Lands, have been as yet performed but only such part as hath been done at the expence of your petitioner Wherefore he humbly Prays that the forfeiture of the said Lands may be exacted and the said Shares regranted to him or that he may be reimbursed the charge he hath been at in paying the rates and Taxes & clearing some parts of the said Land. And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

JOSIAH WILLARD.

Portsm^r 26th March 1771.

CHESWICK—now LITTLETON.

[This town was first granted by the name of *Cheswick*, Nov. 17, 1766: regranted by the name of *Apthorp*, Jan. 18, 1770: the territory was divided, Nov. 4, 1784, into the towns of Littleton and Dalton. Ed.]

Petition of Moses Little and Associates.

Province of)
New Hampshire }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General,

Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province aforesaid
& to the Honorable his Majestys Council for said Province

The Memorial of Moses Little of Newbury in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and his Associates humbly Sheweth that your Memorrialists having for a valuable consideration purchased a Certain Tract of Land by the Name of Cheswick being in said Province of New Hampshire, and formally Granted to a Number of Persons by the Honorable Benning Wentworth Esq^r late Governor of said Province of New Hampshire by Charter under the Great Seal of said Province, which Charter has very lately Expired, And that Your Memorialists have already at a very Great Expence begun a Settlement on said Tract of Land, which they were Determined to Prosecute, but apprehending it necessary for their future security, that said Charter be extended which your Memorialists are willing to Surrender would most humbly pray that said Charter may be extended and that the Bounds of said Cheswick, which in said Charter are not fully Ascertained, may be now made Certain, and may be the Same as are mentioned in the Plan of Survey herewith Exhibited which include a much less Quantity of Land, than was by your Memorialists, aty^e Time of their said Purchase. Suppos'd to be Contained within said Township of Cheswick, your Memorialists therefore Relying on the wonted Goodness of your Excellency and Honors most humbly pray that s'd Charter may be Extended the usual Time and that the Bounds as pray'd for may be Established, and as in Duty bound shall ever pray

MOSES LITTLE.

Portsmouth Jan'y 15th 1770

CHICHESTER.

[This town was incorporated 20 May 1727. A Copy of the Charter is the first paper under this head. ED.]

CHARTER.

GEORG by the Grace of God of Great Britaine France and Ireland Kinge
Defender of the faith &c.

To all People to whom these Presents shall Come Greeting Know y^{tt} that wee of our Speciall Knowledge and meer motion, for the Due Encouragement of Settling a new Plantation By and with the advice and Consent of our Councill have given and granted and by these Presents as far as in us lies do give and Grant in Equall Shares unto Sundry of our beloved Subjects whose names are Enter'd in a Schedule hereunto annexed that Inhabitor shall Inhabit within the said grant within our Province of Newhampshire all that Tract of land within the following bounds viz:

to begin on the South West side of the Town of Barnstead and from thence Running South Westerly on the head of the Town Nottingham untill Eight miles be accomplished and then Northwest Eight miles then North East Eight miles. Then South East by the said Town of Barnstead to the Place where it first begun and that the same be a Town Corporate by the name of CHICHESTER to the Persons affore said for Ever To Have and To hold the s^d land to the s^d Grantees and their heirs and assigns for Ever and to such associates as they shall admitt upon the following Conditions (1) That the Proprietors within three years Build or cause to be built Sixty Dwelling houses and settle families in the same and Cleane three acres of Ground fitt for Planting or Mowing and that Each Proprietor Pay his Proportion of the Town Charges when and so often as occasion Shall Require the same (2) that a Meeting house be Built for y^e Publick Worship of God within the Term of fore years

3d that upon Default of any Particular Proprietor in Complying with the Conditions of this Charter upon his Part Such Delinquent Proprietor shall forfeit his share of the s^d land to the other Proprietors which shall be Disposed of according to the major Vote of the s^d Proprietors att a Legall Meeting

4. That a Proprietors Share be Reserved for a Parsonage and another for the first Minister of the Gospell that Shall be their Settled and ordained and another Proprietors share for the Benefit of a Schoole in the s^d Town Provided nevertheless that the Peace with the Indians continue for the Space of three years but if itt Should happen that a Warr with the Indians should Commence before the Expiration of the affores^d Term of three years that then the s^d Term of three years shall be allowed the Proprietors after the Expiration of the warr for the Performance of the affores^d Conditions Rendering and Paying therefore to us our heirs and Successors or such officer or officers as shall be appointed to Receive the same the Annuall Quit Rent or acknowledgeiment of one Pound of Hemp in the s^d Town on the Last Wednesday in march yearly for Ever if Demanded Reserving also unto us our heirs and successors all Mast Trees growing on s^d Tract of land according to acts of Parlyment in that Case made and Provided and for the better order Rull and government of the s^d Town Wee do by these Presents for our selves our heirs and successors Grant unto the s^d Men and Inhabitants or those that shall Inhabit sd. Town that yearly and Every yeare upon the Second Wednesday in March for Ever shall meett to Elect and Chuse by the major Part of the Proprietors then Present Constables Select men and other Town officers according to the laws and usages of our affores^d Province with Power Previcldiges and authority as other Town officers within our afforesaid Province have and Injoy and for the Notifling and calling of the first Town meeting wee do hereby appoint Petter Weare Esqr. John Sanborn and Jacob Freese to be the first Select men and thay to Continue in s^d Respective office as Select men untill the second Wedne-day in the month of march which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twenty Eight and untill other Selectmen shall be Chosen and appointed in their stead in such manner as in these Presents Expressed. In Testimony whereof we have cased the Seale of our said Province to be hereunto affixed Witness John Wentworth Esqr our Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chiefe in and over our said Province att our Town of Portsmouth in said Province of New hampshire the Twentieth Day of May in the thirteenth yeare of our Reigne Anno Domine 1727.

JOHN WENTWORTH.

By order of his Honor Lt Gov^r with advice of y^e Counsell
Richard Waldron

Clark of the Counsell

A True Coppy of Chichester Charter Examined by me
Will^m Stanford Clark of Chichester

Chichester Petition.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Commander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and to y^e Honourable the Councell of the s^d Province

The Petition of the Proprietors of the township of Chichester in the Province afores^d Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners In y^e year 1727 had a track of Land Granted to them: Now called by y^e name of Chichester; in order to erect a township and make a settlement thereon. upon such Conditions and Limitations as are mentioned in ye Charter of said township; But your Petitioners meeting with more truble & Difficulty in Runing y^e Bounds and Clearing A Road up to the said town than was Expected have Not as yet Been able fully to Comply with the Conditions afores^d. Your Petitioners therefore Humbly Pray that your Excellency and the Honourable Board Would Be pleased to Grant them a further term of time in order to their being Enabled fully to Compleat y^e settlement of said township and your Petitioners shall ever pray &c

May y^e 6th 1731.

In Coun May 6th 1731 Read

Voted that the Petitioners have one year more added to the term allowed for performance of the Conditions of the Charter

R. Waldron Secy

I assent to y^e above vote of Council

J. BELCHER

May 7th 1731

Nath^l Weare

Benjⁿ Gambling

John Gilman

Joshua Winget

Barth^l Thing

Richard Jenness

Theodore Atkinson

John Samburn

Ebenezer Stevens

Tho^s Peirce

for y^e selves & In behalf of the rest

Petition of the Town of Chichester, 28 Feb., 1733, for confirmation of charter.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England and Vice-admiral of the same And to the Honourable His Majesty's Council of said Province of New Hampshir

The Petition of the Proprietors of the Township of Chiches-

ter in the Province of New Hampshire afores^d Most Humbly Sheweth

That in the year of our Lord 1727 there was granted a Charter of a Certain Tract of land in New Hampshire afores^d by the name of Chichester unto a Number of Persons whose Names are in the Schedule unto said Charter annexed and that the Proprietors of s^d Township not having complied with the Conditions mentioned in said Charter some time since Petitioned to your Excellency and the Honourable the Council for a longer time than mentioned in said Charter, to perform what was therein required of them to do, which your Excellency and the Honourable Council were pleased to Grant, and that by reason of the distance of said Township, and the Difficultys that attend Settling and Cultivating Wilderness land your Petitioners have not as yet in all things complied with the Conditions of said Charter tho' they have done considerable towards it and been at a great Charge for what they have done and are daily endeavoring to comply with the whole and that the Meeting house in said Town of Chichester together with sundry dwelling houses were the Summer past accidentally consumed by fire

Now your Petitioners most humbly beg that your Excellency and the Honourable His Majestys Council for the reasons above mentioned would in your great Wisdom and Goodness be pleased to confirm the afores^d Charter unto your Petitioners and also to grant him further time for the fullfilling the Conditions thereof and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

JABEZ SMITH	} Committee in behalf of the Proprietors
TH ^o PIERCE	

Petition for liberty to assess taxes.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Counsel & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened the 27th Day of March Anno Dom. 1760

The Humble Petition of Thomas Westbrook Waldron and Francis Jeuness as a Committee of the Proprietors of Chichester in said Province Shews

That for want of a Proper General Law for Enabling Proprietors of unsettled Townships to transact their affairs Relating to making said Settle^{mt}s (the said Proprietors not having obtained a Particular Act in their favour) the Business of said

Settlement is very backward many of said Proprietors not having Drawn their Lots others in arrears for past Taxes and Some Resting on their Oars leave the burthen of settling said Township to those who are Voluntary in doing the duty Knowing that their Estates there will be Raised in Value by the Settlement tho' they Contribute nothing towards it.

That such a Situation of affairs is not only a Prejudice to Particular Proprieties & Townships but to the Province in General by Retarding many Settlements which long since would have been made and much more Land Cultivated than there is at Present in this Province had there been a General Law by which such backward Selfish Proprietors who would Gladly Raise Estates at other Peoples Expence might have been Compelled to have done their duty towards making the Settlements in a Summary way as the affairs of Towns are Transacted Especially Respecting the Payment of Taxes

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that they may have Liberty to bring in a Bill Enforcing the Payment of Taxes in arrearage duly assessed as also such as shall hereafter be so made obliging also such as neglect to Draw their Lots to do it & in Default of that or neglecting any other matters which shall be Granted & agreed upon at any Legal Meeting of said Proprietors the Lands or part sufficient for this Purpose of such Delinquent Proprietors be subjected to sale and also that there be a Tax of three — Pounds on Each Right for three years if needed to carry on and make the said Settlement without any further Delay but what is unavoidable by the War and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c

THO^S W^S WALDRON
FRANCIS JENNES.

In Council March 27—1760

read & ordered to be sent down

to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Theod. Atkinson Secy

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

On the last page of MS. Vol. I. "Town Papers" is a Paper. labeled "Draught of a charter for Coulerain, Dec. 1726." The bounds given by the Charter, are as follows: "Begin—at Rochester northerly Corner bounds, at or near Salmon-fall river, running along Rochester head line, keeping the course of that line till twelve miles be accomplished, and from each end of the said twelve mile line to run north west half a point northerly ten miles, and then to run a straight line from the end of one ten mile line to the end of the other, which will be parallel to Rochester head line. first mentioned, and that the same be corporate by y^e name of Coulerain."

The editor is not aware that any such town ever existed in New Hampshire.

VOLUME II.

CONCORD TO EXETER.

CONCORD.

[This town was first visited by the English in 1638 or '39. It was granted by Massachusetts, 17 January, 1725-6, and was settled in 1727. It was then called PENNY COOK. It was incorporated by the Province of Massachusetts in 1733, by the name of Rumford, and remained under that government until 1741. It received the name of Concord by the Charter which was granted during the administration of Benning Wentworth, 7 June, 1765. Ed.]

Petition from Ebenezer Eastman for protection from the Indians.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief and Captain General in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Honorable his Majesty's Council for said Province and the House of Representatives met on the twelfth day of March 1746 upon a special Convention

The Petition of Ebenezer Eastman of Penny Cook so called in s^d Province in behalf of himself and the other In habitants there Most humbly Shews—

That they are in great danger of and much exposed unto the Indian Enemy and are in daily fear that they shall be attacked by them and such a number as will be too many for them unless they have some help—

That the Inhabitants there, are about to quit the Place unless they can be protected That on Saturday night last being y^e Eighth day of March Inst. there was a discovery of an Indian near Canterbury Fort, which has caused much fear and an apprehension that there is a Body of the Enemy waiting an opportunity to do mischief

Wherefore Your Petitioner most humbly Prays your Excellency and Honours to consider of this Petition and to Grant such Relief as in your great wisdom you shall judge meet and proper and your Petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever pray
&c

EBENEZER EASTMAN.

March 12th 1746

Province N. Hamp. March 12th 1746.

In Council at a Special Session of Gen^l Assembly

read & ordered to be sent down to the Convened members

Theodore Atkinson

*Copy of Rumford Petition. June 21, 1744, for defence
against the Indians.*

To his Ex^{ty} B. W. Esqr. Capt. Gen^l and Gov^r in chief, in and
over His Maj^{ty}'s Province of N. H. in N. Engl. The Hon;
the coun and House of Represen^{tes} in Gen Court Convened

The memorial & Petition of y^e Inhabitants of the town of
Rumford in s^d Prov. Humbly *Sheweth* That y^e s^d Town has
been settled by His Majesty's Subjects abt. 17 yrs. and a Gospel
Minister ordained there abt 12—That the Settlers had an eye at
enlarging his Majestys Dominions by going into the Wilder-
ness as well as at promoting their own Interest; That many
Thous^d Pounds have been spent in Clearing and Cultivating
the Lands there, and many more in erecting mansion houses
out-Houses, Barns and Fences besides a large additional sum
in Fortifications lately made, by His Ex^{ty} the Gov^r's order;
That the Buildings are compact, and properly form'd for De-
fence, and well situated for a Barrier, being on Merrimack
River, abt. 15 miles below the Confluence of Winnipishoky
and Pemissawpset Rivers, both wth are main Gang Ways of
the Canadians, to the Frontiers of this Province; That the
breaking up of the Settlem^t will not only ruin the Memorial-
ists, but in their humble opinion greatly disserve His Majes-
ty's Interest, by Encouraging his Enemies to Encroach on his
derelict Dominion, and be also hurtful to the Prov; by con-
tracting its Borders, and drawing the War nearer the Capital;
That it was by a long and importunate Intercession of this
Province and not of the Memorialists seeking that they are cast
under the immediate care of this Gove^{ty} w^{ch} y^e apprehend
gives them so much the better right to its protection that they
have hitherto cheerfully paid their proportionate Part of the
public Taxes, assigned 'em by the General Court even without
being privileged with a Representative in the Said Court;
That as War is already declared Agst France and a rup-
ture with y^e Indians hourly expected, your Memorialists unless
they have Speedy help will be soon obliged to evacuate y^e
Place, how disserviceable soever it may be to the Crown, dis-
honorable to the Govern^t hurtful to the Province and ruinous to
themselves. Wherefore they most humbly Supplicate your
Ex^{ty} the Hon. Coun^{tl} and House of represen^{tes} to take the
Premises into your wise and mature Consideration and to grant
them such seasonable relief as may enable 'em to maintain

His Majestys Dominions in so well situated a Barrier and so ancient and well regulated a Settlement as well as to secure their own Lives and Fortunes ag^t the Ravage and Devastation of a blood-thirsty and Merciless Enemy. And y^e Memorialists as in Duty bound will Ever pray—

Petition for aid. by Benjamin Rolfe, Esq.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. General and Governour in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representatives in General Court convened

The Memorial and Petition of Benjamin Rolfe in the Name and Behalf of the Inhabitants of the Town of Rumford in said Province Humbly Sheweth That the said Town has been Settled by His Majesty's Subjects about Eighteen Years and a Gospel Minister ordained there upwards of Fourteen

That the Settlers had an eye at enlarging His Majesty's Dominions by going into the Wilderness as well as at their own Interest That Many Thousand Pounds have been spent in clearing and cultivating the Lands there and many more in erecting Mansion Houses Fortifications, Out Houses, Barns and Fences. That the Buildings are mostly compact and properly form'd for Defence and well situated for a Barrier, being on Merrimack River about a Days march below the Confluence of Winipishoky and Pemissawasset Rivers both which are main gang Ways of the Canadians to the Frontiers of this Province and within a Weeks march at farthest from a very strong Fort built within these few years by the French at Crown Point which will be a Place of constant Retreat and Resort for the French and Indians in all their Expeditions against the English Settlements. That the breaking up of the Settlement will not only ruin the Memorialists but in their humble Opinion greatly disserve His Majesty's Interest by encouragin His Enemies to encroach on His derelict Dominions and be also hurtful to the Province by contracting its Borders and drawing the War nearer to the Capital. That it was by a long and importunate Intercession of the Province (and not of the Memorialists seeking) that they are cast under the immediate Care of this Government, which they apprehend gives them so much the better Right to its Protection That as War has been declared against France for some Time and a Rupture with the Indians has been hourly expected, many of the Inhabitants of said Town, by Reason of their being so exposed to imminent Danger from their Enemies have already moved from said Town and the Season of the Year being such as to give the

Indians an opportunity of disturbing the Frontiers and the Dutch Mohawks having lately given occasion to fear that they would join in a War against His Majestys settlements as mentioned in some late News Papers your Memorialists unless they have speedy help will be soon obliged to Evacuate said Town how disserviceable soever it may be to the Crown dishonorable to the Government, hurtful to the Province and ruinous to themselves—Wherefore your memorialists most humbly supplicate your Excellency, the Honourable Council and House of Representatives to take the Premises into your wise and mature Consideration and to grant them such constant and seasonable aids both with Respect to men and Military Stores as may enable them to maintain His Majesty's Dominions in so well situated a Barrier, and so ancient and well regulated a Settlement as well as to secure their own Lives and Fortunes against the Ravage and Devastations of a Blood thirsty and Merciless Enemy and your Memorialists as in Duty bound will ever pray

BENJAMIN ROLFE.

Portsmouth April y^e 30th 1745.

Petition of Inhabitants of Rumford, 1747.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Capt. General & Governour of His Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England To the Honourable the Council & House of Representatives of s^t Province.

The Petition of y^e Subscribers Inhabitants of Rumford in s^t Province Humbly sheweth That we have great Reason to fear a Speedy attack from the Enemy with a force too great to be match^d by us with what Assistance we att present (thro your Excellencys & Honours great Goodness) have from y^e Province—That the plain and Evident tracks of a Considerable Number was discovered by our Scout y^e last week. That Guns have been heard both here and att Contoocook upon y^e Sabbath & other Times & Places where it is certain no English were. That y^e News of a Formidable Armament sent from Canada to Crown Point obtained such credit with the Government of y^e Massachusetts Bay as Induced them to provide a prodigious Reinforceinent to strengthen their Western Barrier—That such is our Situation that as y^e Rivers Hudson & Connecticut lie most exposed to Incursions from Crown Point so ours is y^e next, and the experience of this whole war has Taught us that whenever any Smart attack has been made upon any of y^e Settlements on Connecticut River the Enemy have never failed of sending a considerable Number to visit our

River—That while our ordinary business was Hoeing we could work in such large companies as not be in Such Imminent Danger of being massacred by y^e enemy, which now Haying and English Harvest comes on will be Impracticable with out vast Detriment to y^e whole & utter Ruin to some. We therefore beg of your Excellency & Honours to take our deplorable case into Consideration & extend your compassion towards & grant us such a further Reinforcement as you may think in your great wisdom our case requires & your Petitioners shall as in Duty Bound Ever pray &c

Rumford July 13, 1747.

Ebenezer Hall
Jeremiah Stickney
John Chandler
Abiel Chandler
George Hull
Edward Abbott
Benjamin Abbott
Joseph Ordway
Samson Colbe
Aaron Stevens
Timothy Bradley
Joseph Farnum
Isaac Walker Jun.
James Abbott
Amos Abbott
Ephraim Farnam
Joseph Pudney
Ebenezer Eastman
Henry Lovejoy
Joseph Eastman
Jeremiah Eastman
Nathaniel Eastman
Amos Eastman
Ebenezer Eastman Jr.
Samuel Shepherd
Joseph Simonds
Ebenezer Virgin
Philip Eastman
Ephraim Carter
Ezra Carter
Stephen Farington

Nath^a Abbott
Joseph Eastman
Samwill Eastman
Abraham Kimball
Samuel Grey
George Abbott
John Merrill
Joseph Hall
David Foster
Obediah Foster
Hanery Pudney
Patrick Garving
James Peters
Zebdiah Farnem
James Farnum
James Osgood
Lot Colbe
Moses Merrill
William Pudney
Isaac Wakler
Timothy Walker
David Evens
Richard Haselton
Jacob Shut
Samuel Putney
Nathaniel West
Abraham Colby
Matthew Standly
John Putney
Daniel Chase
Daniel Chase Junr.

In Council July 15th 1747.

read & ordered to be sent Down to The Hon^{ble} House

Theodore Atkinson Sec.

Petition of Capt. Eben^r Eastman.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief and Captain General in and over the Province of New Hamp^t The Hon^{ble} his majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd
The memorial and Petition of Ebenezer Eastman for him-

self and in behalf of the Inhabitants of Rumford So called most humbly Shews—That your Memorialist in a most grateful manner owns and acknowledges the Goodness and Kindness of your Excellency and Honours in the late allowance of thirty men in Guarding and Defending the Inhabitants of s^d Rumford and other places thereabouts. That the time for which s^d thirty men were allowed is expired and they have been dismiss'd some days—That your Memorialist humbly conceives that the time of Indian Harvest drawing nigh will be a time of considerable Danger from the Indian Enemy (if not from the French also) wherefore he prays if it may be tho't necessary by your Excellency and Honours that there may be a further allowance of a number of men for the Safe Guard of the s^d Inhabitants and such a number and for such time as to your Excellency and Honours shall seem meet and your Petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever pray &c.

EBENEZER EASTMAN.

Sep^r 23^d 1747.

Joseph Pudney's Petition.

Prov. of)
New Hamp)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Gov^r &c. The Hon^{le} His Majestys Council & House of Rep^{ts} in Gen^l Assembly conven'd at Ports^o May 1748.

The Petition of Joseph Pudney of Rumford most Humbly Sheweth That your Petit^r the Last Summer at Rumford afore^d While in his Majesty's Service was Wounded by the Indians. who by their shot Broak his arm & the bones much Shattered. That altho the Wound is healed up yet he is unable to do any Work to Earn his Livelyhood. & his arm so weak, that he's unfit for scouting &c. That he is able to do the duty of a Garrison Souldier. and as such are wanted in the s^d Town of Rumford he humbly Conceives in that way he might be so far serviceable as to earn his living.

Wherefore your Pet^r most humbly prays that he may be held in his Majesty's service and posted at the s^d town as a Garrison Souldier And y^r Pet^r as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray

EBENEZER EASTMAN
in Behalf of y^e Pet^r

In Council May 17. 1748

read recommended &

ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House

Theo. Atkinson Secy.

Prov of }
New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 28th May 1748.

Voted That in Answer to y^r within Petition mentioned Joseph Pudney be posted as a Soldier at y^r garrison at s^t Rumford til y^e last of September next

D. Peirce Clk

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred

Theo. Atkinson Secy.

Eodem die

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Rev. Tim^r Walker's letter to Archibald Stark.

SR. Yours without Date I received last Night Nine oth clock, Informing me that you had a visit from a committee of y^r Honourable Assembly of y^r Province respecting y^r Road thro Mr. McNeals Field desiring that our People would sign a Petion for y^r s^t Road to the s^t Assembly as they had already to y^r General Sessions and send it to Portsmouth by next Monday Ten of y^r clock, now altho I am fully of opinion that y^r want of y^t Road will in a few years Time be of vastly more Damage to y^r Publick than the whole of McNeals Field & that every Person up this way who is at all acquainted therewith will readily sign such a Petition representing y^r same in y^r strongest light possible yet the Notice is so short that no such thing can be prosecuted to any effect therefore y^r only way left you is to pray for Longer Time w^h is so reasonable that I cant think one word can be objected ag^t it & if that be granted I shall be ready to doe any thing within my power not only to serve you & y^r Publick but my self also in y^r affair I remain your hearty Friend & Oblidged Serv^t

TIMOTHY WALKER

Rumford July 7th 1753.

Mr. Archibald Stark.

Petition of Ezra Carter in behalf of Rumford.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire. The Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened July 14th 1756

The Petition of Ezra Carter on behalf of himself & the Inhabitants of the Late District of Rumford so called in said Province Humbly sheweth. That the said Inhabitants apprehend that since the expiration of said District Act, they have not had the Priviledges which other Towns in this Province enjoy. That they could not Raise money for the Support of their minister, their Poor, the Repairing of High Ways, or maintaining a School (which the youth there much need) or to act in any Political manner whatsoever for want of which

Priviledges the said Inhabitants think they have been great Suffers.

Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays your Excellency & Honours would Compassionate our Case and Incorporate said Plantation by its Boundaries or grant such other Relief as in your wisdom you may see meet & your Petitioner Shall as in duty bound ever pray

EZRA CARTER.

In Council July 15th 1736

read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House

Theod. Atkinson Secy.

Letter from Jeremiah Stickney, Esq., relating to difficulties with Bow.

Rumford March 19th 1761.

SIR.

I have received the Order from his Excellency & General Assembly Appointing An Inventory to be taken of the Poles & Rateable Estate in the Province endorsed to the Select men of Bow by the hand of Mr Carr together with a verbal Order to deliver it to me in Case he could find no Such Select men & have conferred with those of my Neighbors that I could handily come at upon the purport & design thereof & I find them all concurring with me in a deep sense of manifold difficulties we labour under for want of Power to regulate Society according to manner of other Towns & Districts, which if was offered us we should readily Embrace as well for our own Sakes as an Inclination to pay all dutifull regard to the Orders of the Government—we never understood that we had power to Act to Ordinary Purposes of Regulating society under the Incorporation of Bow in which if we were mistaken twas our unhappiness which admit to be the Case we apprehend ourselves at present utterly destitute of any such Power for want of a Legal Meeting which we know no possible way of obtaining without an Express Order of the Honourable Court which if they should see meet to issue we shall pay all ready obedience & proceed to Carry into Execution the Design of this Order if time be allowed for it, which if should be the Case would humbly suggest a necessity of ascertaining the Limits by which we are to be Circumscribed if we might Choose we should much incline to be bounde I as the district of Rumford was whilst it subsisted—but if that be not Granted & it is the Pleasure of the Court that we Should act as the Town of Bow we apprehend that the same necessity Occurs not only because Pembroke is Lately taken Partly out of Bow but also for that their Line as we have been informed, has been Run very differently by their own Committees & I believe that no one of us Knows either of the Lines in all the parts of it & however we may dispute any or all these Lines whilst we are defending our Properties in the Civil Courts of Judicature (which we mean still to reserve to ourselves the right of Doing) Yet we never did or shall dispute the Power of the Government to make Bow Lie where they please to whose Resolution we shall pay ready Obedience when we Know it. Without which we Know of no way in our Power at present wherein we can contribute to carrying into Execution this order Unless the Honourable Court should see Cause to appoint some Person or Persons to take the proposed Inventory amongst us or the Select men of Canterbury shall ap-

doint some Persons to said Business which is in their power as we Construe the Order in either of which Cases we shall all suitable Compliance. So please to Communicate this Letter if you see fit to the Honourable Assembly not only as my private sentiments by so far as I know the united sense of all our people.

I am with all due regards

Yr. Obed^t Hum. Serv^t

JEREMIAH STICKNEY.

P. S. if the Hon. Court should see Cause to put us in a way of Regulation, among the Reasons against any of the Lines of Bow being Our limits, this is the Principal that either of the Said Lines would leave some few of our Inhabitants without our Incorporation which we would be glad to have & who would Choose to belong to us & which no other Society wants, but would take a much larger Number of the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton which they Can very ill spare & which we don't want & would be against the inclination of the People

Sr. Yrs.

J. S.

Capt. Thomas Parker, Litchfield.

Timothy Walker's Petition in behalf of Rumford.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire. The Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & house of Representatives in General Assembly Convened, April 11th 1764

The humble Petition of Timothy Walker on behalf of himself and the Inhabitants of Rumford (so called) in said Province.

Sheweth. That the Affairs of the said Inhabitants (so far as relates to Town matters have been in great confusion Ever since the year 1749 for want of the Power which they had till then enjoyed ever since the year 1741 by the District act (so called) which this Hon^{ble} Court say in July 1746 when it was reviewed had been found Convenient both for the Government of this Province in General and also the Inhabitants incorporated thereby in particular.

That altho' it has been pretended that they might still have Enjoyed the same priviledges (as Inhabitants of Bow) yet they never understood matters) in that light. And for this their opinion and Practice consequential thereupon they humbly conceive they would give reasons which would be satisfactory to this Court were they permitted—But to pass over all this—This Power or the Exercise of it has been lost to them (if ever they had it) ever since March 1756 for want of a first meeting.

That by the year 1760 they were so heartily tired of such an unsettled state that they would have been glad to have acted Even under the Incorporation of Bow, if they could altho

highly inconvenient for them as it blended part of three towns together whose interests had always been separate & would consequently be apt to create strife and contention That this Court was apprized of their utter Incapacity of doing Corporate act (even as Bow) by a Letter signed Jeremiah Stickney in behalf of himself and others now on file together with their dutiful & ready disposition to Comply with every motion of this Court to the utmost of their Power.

That the said Inhabitants conceive themselves greatly aggrieved by a late act of this Government imposing a heavy Tax on the Inhabitants of Bow as arrears &c a Tax which Nobody had Power to assess and collect at y^e time when y^e s^d arrearages became due and which if now done must be laid in many Instances on wrong Persons; That what they suffered for want of the Powers [they] had enjoyed by the first mentioned District act was unspeakably more to their Damage than to have paid their Proportion of the Province Expence.

That the incapacity complained of all along still continues and yet the People are subjected to pay their part of the Current Charge but no body has power to assess or Collect it. They therefore most humbly Pray that your Excellency and Honors will take the matters complained of under Consideration and either revive the said District Act so far as relates to Rumford or (which w^old be much more satisfactory to the said Inhabitants) Incorporate them by a standing act and by their former Known Boundaries that the said Inhabitants may be abated at least one half part of said arrearages. And that with respect to their part of the Current Charge of the Province they may be subjected to pay no more than their just proportion with the other Towns in this Province & Grant them such other Relief as in your great wisdom and goodness you shall see meet. And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

TIMOTHY WALKER.

In Council April 13th 1764

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Province of) In the house of Representatives May 3^d, 1764.
New Hampshire; This Petition being read,

Voted That what the said town of Bow is now in arrears for the Province tax be collected agreeable to an act passed the second of June 1763 that the Inhabitants settled on the lands between said Bow, Canterbury & New Hopkinton (except such as are already polled off to Pembroke & New Hopkinton) be taxed & pay their proportion thereof & that the inhabitants of Bow with the inhabitants on all the lands between said Bow, Canterbury Boscawen & New Hopkinton except such as are already Polled off to Pembroke & New Hopkinton meet together some time in the month of June next at Bow & (choose all necessary officers for assessing & Collecting the annual province Tax & for trans-

acting all other town affairs & afterwards some time in the Month of March annually untill further orders of the Gen^l Assembly & that he have liberty to bring in a bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk.

Petition relating to taxation, &c., 1764.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor & Commander in Chief of His Majesties Province of New Hampshire. To the Hon. His Majesties Council of said Province. & General Court Convened October the second day Anno Dom. 1764

Whereas Edward Russel & others have petitioned your Excellency & Honours to be freed from paying any part of those arrearages of Taxes ordered to be assessed upon Bow & whereas so much Notice was taken of said Petition as that the Petitioners were ordered to serve us the Subscribers with a Copy thereof, in order that we may shew Cause, if any we have why the prayer thereof should not be granted

These are therefore to inform your Excellency & Honours that there are Forty one Poles with the Estates which they possess within the Limits of Bow as described in the Act of Taxation referred to in the said Petition which are exactly similar to these Petitioners, and also Sixty or more Poles with the Estate which they now possess which were Minors & so not liable to be Taxed when the Rates were supposed to be due for which this Tax is Ordered, but have since come of age & so Rated as fr^m the List appears.

To Ballance which increase there has been a yearly drain of Inhabitants from us it is out of our Power to ascertain the Number but we are well persuaded from what we Know of the affair that if it could be done it would bear some near proportion to the advance—These have all left the Town, & many of them the Province in each of which Cases they are equally exempt from our power of Taxing them. And we humbly submit it to your wise determination whether there is not the same reason that these other persons should be freed as that the petitioners should Which if the Case, we are well assured that it will be absolutely impossible for the small remainder to pay the whole of said Tax.

We are Your Excellencys & Honours most Humble Servants.

EZRA CARTER	}	Assessors
JOHN CHANDLER		of Bow
EPHRAIM BLUNT	}	Selectmen
WILLIAM MOOR		of
ISAAC WHITE		Pembroke

Petition of Concord to be annexed to Hillsborough County.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened the 18th day of Jan^r Anno Domini 1774

The Petition of Andrew McMillan Esqr. Agent For the Inhabitants of the Town of Concord in the County of Rockingham and Province aforesaid, Humbly sheweth

That said Town of Concord is Forty miles from Exeter and Fifty five miles from Portsmouth where the Courts of Justice are held for said County of Rockingham, and the Inhabitants of said Concord very little if any thing benefited by the late Division of this Province into Five Counties.

Secondly that many of the Inhabitants of the Towns in the north part of the County of Hillsborough have applied to your Petitioner's Constituents and earnestly desired that the inconveniences they labour under may be represented to your Excellency and Honours by a Petition which they say are

First as there is but one Superior Court of Judicature in a year held in said County of Hillsborough and Prisoners committed for capital Crimes must lay in Goal sometimes Eleven nine or six months according to the time they are committed before it can be known whether they are or are not guilty: and in case they should be acquitted your Petitioners constituents, humbly apprehend it a great Pity that they have suffered so long and if found guilty they thing it a grievous burthen to maintain such bad Subjects so long at the expense of poor, honest industrious beginners in the Wilderness.

Secondly Creditors in General in said County of Hillsborough who incline to sue at any time except July term in said County are obliged to indorse their notes &c over to Persons who live in the County of Rockingham or other Counties & some to the Massachusetts and the expense is as great as before they were a County. Thirdly the place where the Courts are held in said County of Hillsborough is at such a Distance from them that they are of opinion that the Inhabitants of the south part of said County will not oppose their having Justice done in that respect.

Fourthly that the situation of the Town of Concord is such that it will accommodate all the Inhabitants of the upper or Northerly part of the said County of Hillsborough and give them general satisfaction

Therefore the said Inhabitants of the Town of Concord by their said Agents humbly pray your Excellency & Honours that said Town of Concord may be annexed to the County of Hillsborough and that there may be annually held there one

Superior Court of Judicature one Inferior Court of common pleas one Court of general Sessions of the peace for said County or otherwise act in the premises as your Excellency & Honours Wisdom for the benefit of his Majesty's Subjects shall direct and your Petitioners by their said Agents as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

AND^y McMILLAN

Portsm^o Jan^y 18th 1774.

In Council Jan^y. 19, 1774.

Read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Geo King D. Sec^y

In the House of Representatives Jan^y 19th 1774

Upon reading the foregoing Petition

Voted that the Petitioner be heard thereon on the third day of the Sitting of the General Assembly after the first day of March next and that in the meantime the Petitioner cause the Substance of this Petition and order of Court thereon to be printed three weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazette that any person may have opportunity to appear & Shew cause why the prayer of said Petition Should not be Granted

J. Wentworth Speaker

In Council Jan^y 20. 1774.

The within vote was read & concurred

Geo King. D. Sec.

CONWAY.

[Conway began to be settled in 1764: the grant of the township was made, Oct. 1. 1765. Ed.]

CONWAY, NC.

A list of the original Proprietors of Conway, the Number of the Lots by Whom Claimed, the Lots settled, under whom they first Improved, the Lots Improved, the Lots not Improved.

Original Proprietors	No	by whom claimed	the State of the Rights
Thos Atkinson Esqr	67	David Page	Settled 2 Families under Col Frye
Asa Foster	64	John Osgood	Dr First Improved under Brown
Reuben Kimble	63	Joshua Kelley	Dr First Improved under Brown
Josiah Johnson	53	Thos Merrill Esqr	Settled under Brown 2 Families on this lot
Daniel Foster	46	Timothy Walker	Settled under Conway
George Abbot	45	Enoch Webster	Settled under Conway
Perley Ayre	42	Ebenezer Burbank	Settled under Brown
Joshua Heath	50	Joshua Heath	Settled under Brown
Ebenezer Burbank	49	Richard Ayre	Settled under Brown
Peter Parker	48	Richard Ayre	Settled under Brown
Late Governor Farm	51 & 52	James & Benja Osgood	Two Families settled under Brown
John Maslin	32	Thos Russell	Settled under Conway
James Burley	27	Thos Merrill Esqr	Dr about 30 acres improved
Joseph Eastman Junr	14	Richard Eastman	Settled under Conway
Moses Foster Junr	13	Col. Atkinson Settler	one Family on his original Right for this Right
Daniel Warner Esqr	69	H. Young Brown	Improved for Pasture some Trees Fell
to be given to the			
1st Minister Lot	68	Proprietors of Conway	Improved Largely by Brown
Peter Livis Esqr	66	R. Hazen Osgood A	Improved by Hazen Osgood 1 st improvement under Brown
Andrew McMillin & }	65	Andrew McMillin	Considerable Improvement, the
William Starks,			Greatest part was made under Brown
Henry Lovejoy	60	James Osgood	Improvement made under Brown
John Maslin Junr	59	Richard Ayre	2 acres of Trees Fell
Benja Ingales	58	Benja Ingales	2 acres of Trees Fell

A list of the original Proprietors of Conway, the Number of the Lots by Whom Claimed, the Lots settled under whom they first Improved, the Lots Improved, the Lots not Improved.

[CONTINUED.]

Original Proprietors	No	by whom claimed	the State of the Rights
Wm Ingalls	57	Wm Nox A	Improved 1st begun under Brown
Joseph Eastman	55	John Webster	House Frame up and Boarded Improvement by Herreman
Obediah Eastman	47	Jeremiah Perington A	Improvement 1st began By Brown
Moses Foster	41	Abiel Lovejoy A	Improvement under Conway
David Hix	43	Samuel Johnson	Improvement under Conway
John Johnson	39	James Cochran A	Improvement under Conway
John Warner Esq	38	Jon ^a Warner Esq A	Improved under Conway
Thos Atkinson Jun. Esq.	33	Col. Atkinson	Improved under Conway by cutting some wild Hay
Arthur Bunnell	31		Improved and three sons as Settlers
Daniel Ingales	30	Thos Merrill Esqr	Improvement made
John Ingales	29		Improvement made
Ephraim Carter	28	Abiather Eastman A	One house one barn 10 acres of Plow land
Jon ^a Stephens	24	Thos Merrill Esqr.	Cuts about 5 Load Hay one Tennent
David Ayre	18	Andrew McMillan Esqr }	
Ephraim Foster	19	D ^o	
John Beverly Watts	17	D ^o	
Thos Merrill	16	D ^o	
Clement March Esqr	54	Clement March Esqr.	Some Improvement by Leonard Herreman
Thos Briggs	12	Richard Ayre	2 acres of Trees Fell
Francis Carr	1	Joseph Odle	for Common land first Improved under Brown
John Tutton Mason Esq.	62	John Tutton Mason Esqr.	No Improvement
Honble John Temple Esq	61	Honble John Temple Esqr	D ^o
John Lang	56	John Lang	D ^o
Moses Eastman	40	Moses Eastman	Capt. Eastman informs me they cut some hay

Peter Ayre	37	John Knight	No Improvement
William Ladd	36	Timney	Do
Samuel Merrill	35	Jesse Page	Do
Jacob Ayre	34	Jacob Ayre }	forms me there is hay cut on it. No Improvements
Nath ^l Perley	29	Jacob Ayre }	
Samuel Ayre	20	Jacob Ayre }	
Richard Ayre	22	Richard Ayre	
Henry Sherburne Esqr	15		he In
M. H. Wentworth Esqr	26	M. H. Wentworth	
Nath ^l Parrel Esqr.	25	Said to be Cap ⁿ Modlets	
James Osgood	11	Samuel White & Joseph Eastman	
Propagating the Gospel	10		
School	9		
Samuel Ingales	8	Oliver Peabody	
Andrew Bunting	7	Late Governor	
Asa Kimble	6	Late Governor	
John Carr	5	Dan Foster or Oliver Peabody	
Elias Heath	4	Peter Livis Esqr.	there was an addition laid out to this lot, and a Family settled on it
Caleb Foster	3		No Improvements
Nath Eastman	2		Do
David Carr		Andrew McMillin Esq	Do
Gleeb Lot	21		

John Webster one of Col. Fry's Proprietors set his house within the line of Conway. Col. Fry's Proprietors gave Capt^{as} Walker, Starks, & McMillin 500 Dollars to build a Griss mill and saw mill, and they to have the mills, said mills fell within Conway the late Governor Gave Starks and McMillin right for the use of the mills, and they proprietors of Conway gave Walker 100 acres round said Mills.—There was a Family settled before Conway was Granted—Brown had two Families settled before Conway was Granted that mov'd away

*A List of the Settlers that have Familys in Conway, and
by whome Introduced.*

- 3 Settlers by Col. Frye, John Webster, David Page, Samuel Smith
2 at the mills, Timothy Walker, Ezekiel Walker
9 Settlers by Conway Proprietors, Joshua Kelley Ebenezer Burbank,
Thos Russell, Thos Merrill Esqr, Richard Eastman, Enoch Web-
ster, John Willson, all own rights, Joseph Kilgore, Tennent to Capⁿ
Walker, Anthony Emery, Tennent to Andrew McMillin Esq^r
7 Familys by Brown, John Osgood, Leonard Harveman, Joshua Heath,
John Dolloff Jun, John Dolloff, James Osgood, Benj^t Osgood.
1 Family Nath Harriman, settled on a lot with his Father not agreed
with Brown or Conway

22 Total

8 Improvements mark'd with the letter A worked on their land last
year went away in the Fall to Return in the Spring.

March 21 1771 A True State of Conway according to my best
Knowledge

PR. HENRY YOUNG BROWN.

Memorial from Fryeburg, Brownfield and Conway, 1776.
To the Hon^{ble} General Court of the Colony of New Hamp-
shire.

The memorial of the Committees of Conway in the County
of Grafton, Fryeburg and Brownfield in the County of York,
and Colony of Massachusetts Bay united humbly Sheweth that
the above said New Plantations Consist of about one Hundred
and Thirty Familys are Situated at a Place called Pigwacket
Upon Saco River which nearly Unites with a Branch of An-
droscooggin River, about thirty miles northerly from other Set-
tlements, and lay Greatly Exposed to Excursions of the Sav-
ages; by the following natural Communications as frequented
by the Indians that come to these Places: one from Chaudire
River into Umbagog lake, which Empties itself into Andros-
coggin river; another from St. Francois River into a branch of
Connecticut River; and by that into Androscooggin River;
another from Kennebunk River by the way of Muselahme-
contucook into Androscooggin River that these Several ways
are by water, except a few short Carrying Places, which bring
them within twenty miles of these Settlements, that the Great-
est part of this twenty miles is water Carriage, that Andros-
coggin River runs Further to the Northward than the head of
Connecticut River. That a party the Last year were sent out
from Coos to Reconnoitre the woods over to Umbagog Lake,
which Empties into St. Francois River; from thence, they set
out Eastwardly in Order to Strike Connecticut River but headed
it, and struck Androscooggin River: Come down that River and

come into these Settlements. that Last fall Three men from Col Arnolds Party come into these Settlements by the way of Androscoggin River, four or five Persons from Quebec Last May Come in here by the way of Androscoggin River. from the Above. it appears that when Ever the frontiers are exposed ; these Settlements are in danger. that from the Alarming accounts we have lately Received from Canada we think it Necessary to make Preparation for Defence and as it is not likely we can provide ourselves with arms and ammunition without the aid of the Hon^{ble} Court. therefore the memorialists intreat the favour of the Hon^{ble} Court to the applications that may be made for the above purpose and for Protection if the Time should come that the frontiers are in Danger, and we as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c

Dated at Fryeburg this 7th Day of July 1776

RICHARD KIMBALL, Chairman of s^t Com^{tee}

N. B. Last Night came in here one family from the upper Coos and all the Rest of the Inhabitants are Removing as fast as possible.

CORNISH.

[Cornish was granted June 21, 1763, to Rev. Samuel McClintock of Greenland, N. H., and 69 others. Ed.]

Petition of Jon^s Chase of Cornish for a grant of Hart Island. Jan. 15, 1772.

Province of)
New Hamps)

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esquire Governor & Commander in chief of said Province & to His Majesty's Council for the Same

The petition of Jonathan Chase of Cornish humbly sheweth—

That your petitioner having purchased of Col^l Nathan Stone of Windsor an Island known by the Name of Hart Island contain'g about twenty two Acres lying in Connecticut River between the Lower Corners of Hartford & Plainfield & the upper Corners of Cornish & Windsor which was first laid out to the proprietors of Hartford in Several Divisions as interval and as such purchased by Major Oliver Willard of said Hartford who afterwards dispos'd of y^e whole to Col^l Stone from whom it has come into said Chase's hands having all along been informed that they the said Willard & Stone had a proper right to hold or dispose of the Same which lying so contiguous To the West Bank of the River was supposed to be part of the

Town of Hartford aforesaid—But since finding it otherw^s determined—

Your Petitioner humbly prays your Excellency & Honours, in Consideration of the Improvements made by the former Claimers and the valuable purchase he has been innocently led into, the said Island may be confirm'd to him by a Grant upon the usual Conditions & reservations—And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c

JONATHAN CHASE.

Portsmouth 15, Jan^r 1771.

Province of }
New Hampshire }

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esquire Governor & Commander in Chief of said Province and to His Majesty's Council for the Same—

The Petition of Jonathⁿ Chase of Cornish humbly sheweth— That your petitioner has made Improvements on a small Island lyin^g in Connecticut River between Cornish & Windsor containing about seven acres which was at first laid out as part of the Interval appertaining to the said Town of Cornish, as such assigned to him by the proprietors, and so improv'd for several years past but since understanding, that being an island tis necessary to obtain a distinct Grant of the same He humbly prays Your Excellency & Honors that he may be considered for the Improvements made there and favor'd with a Grant of the Same upon the usual Conditions & reservations & your petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

JONATHAN CHASE.

Portsmouth 15 January 1771

DEERFIELD.

[This town was incorporated 8 January, 1766. ED.]

Petition of Sundry inhabitants of Deerfield in relation to a tax, &c.

Province of }
New Hampshire }

To the Honorable house of Representatives, the Subscribers being owners of land in Deerfield And understanding that the Inhabitants of s^d Deerfield By their Committee have Petitioned the General Court for a Tax To be laid on all the land in s^d Parish of two pence pr. Acre for the Term of three years, the

one half for the Parsonage y^e other half to be laid out on the Roads, we beg leave to offer a few Reasons why their petition or prayer Should not be Granted

1st We think it would be grievous to compel any whether they live in or out of the Parish to pay any thing towards the support of a Minister of a Different persuasion from themselves & we think any other Society for publick worship of A different persuasion, have as good right to assistance in this way as they—2nd to subject the uncultivated lands in that parish to pay any part of public charges, we think would be grievous, as they yield no profit to the owner & it would be repugnant to the late valuation Act where woodland was exempted although in many Towns wood is of great value.

3rd if a tax was to be laid on the uncultivated lands for any part of publick Charges it would not be Just to lay it equally on all, as many lots now they Are robbed by the Inhabitants (or others) of the valuable timber that grew on them are of little value

4th the parish is Considerably well Settled & with People of Substance—As it is unlikely s^d Petition will be Granted it may be needless to mention the greatness of the sum Pray'd for but we beg leave to mention that although s^d parish is Called six miles square it contains about Twenty Seven Thousand acre according to Nottingham plan as the lots are marked (if we are not mistaken as to how the lines of Deerfield run) we doubt not But your Honours will duly consider & way the matter & do what seemeth to you right. In the mean time we are your Honours Humble Servants

Josiah Sawyer
Samuel Barnard
Nathaniel Currier
Miriam French
James French
Phillips White
Benjamin Brown
Ebenezer Brown

Ebenezer Brown Jun.
Jonathan Ward
Henry Lampre
Nehemiah Ordway
Ephraim Wadleigh
Benjamin Wadleigh
John Woodman
Onesiphorous Page

Deerfield Petition for a Tax.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General Governor Commander and chief in and over His Majesty's province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the same. The Honorable His Majestys Council and House of Representatives for s^d Province Convened

The Humble Petetion of us the Subscribers (being A Committee Chosen by the Inhabitants of Dearfield to Petetion this

Court for A Tax to be laid on all the Lands in Dearfield for the following Reasons) Humbly shews

1st Whereas the s^d Inhabitants have Lately Settled a Minister in s^d Dearfield very much to the acceptance of the Inhabitants and have Engaged to build him A Parsonage house & barn & clear a quantity of land on s^d parsonage Lott and Sett out an orchard for him and Pay A yearly Salary &c.

2^d Wee have three Main Country Roads laid out through s^d Parrish which are Greatly used by His Majestys Subjects to Pass and Repass in. to A Great number of towns Settled above us and frequent Complaints are made that they are not in So Good Repair as they ought to be & wee have Likewise many other highways Laid out for the accommodations of the Settlers of the Parrish in Length of the whole of s^d ways Do amount to upwards of forty miles And as the Settlement of A Minister and haveing Good Highways in A New town or Parrish is verry much to the Profit of the Non resident Proprietors as well as the resident and as the Present Inhabitants are Mostly new Settlers which will make it Exceeding Difficult for them to Perform their Engagements

Therefore Your Petitioners Humbly Prays that in Your Great Wisdom and Goodness You would take this our prayer under your wise Consideration and order a Tax to be Laid on all the Lands in s^d Dearfield for three years Next ensuing of two pence uppon the acre the one Half to be Laid out uppon the Parsonage house and Land the other Half on the Highways and that prudent Persons be appointed to manage s^d business or other ways order with Regard to the Tax as you in your Great Wisdom and Goodness may think proper and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c.

RICH^d JENNESS
THO^s SIMPSON.

Province of) In Council Feby 2 1773.
New Hampr.) The within Petition was read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Geo King D. Sec.

Province of)
New Hampshire) In the House of Representatives Feb. 2^d 1773.

Voted that the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on the third day of the Sitting of the Gen Assembly After the first day of May next, & that the Petitioners at their own cost, cause the Substance thereof to be published in the New Hampr Gazette, three weeks successively and also to put up notifications in said Dearfield that any person may show cause why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted.

William Parker Cler Assembly

In Council Feb. 3^d 1773.

Read & Concurred

Geo King D. Secy.

In the House of Representatives May 13, 1773.

Voted that the Petition^s be heard on this Petition on the third day of the Sitting after the 15 day of June next and that the Petitioners Cause the Petition to be printed as above directed

William Parker Cler.

In Council eodem Die

Read & concurred.

Geo King D Secy.

Province of)
New Hamp^r) In the House of Represent^s January 20th 1774

Voted That the Petitioners may lay a Tax on all the lands in Deerfield of one penny per acre for the Term of three years for the use of the Repair & making highways only & that the Petitioners have leave to bring a bill accordingly

W^m Parker Cler Assembly

In Council Jany 26, 1774

Read & non Concur'd

Geo. King D. Sec

Petition for a Justice of the Peace.

Province of)
New Hampshire)
Rock^w)

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England; and to y^e Hon^{le} his Majestys Council of y^e Province afore^{sd}

The Petition of a Number of y^e freeholders and Inhabitants of y^e Parsh of Deerfield in sd. Province and County humbly sheweth that whereas there is a Large number of People in y^e South part of Deerfield and much Business to be done and no Justice near so we think that such an office would be very advantageous to y^e Place not only for y^e Preservation of y^e Peace but for y^e transacting of other business which otherwise would be expensive to your Petitionars and others The Parson our Eyes are upon is Mr. Daniel Ladd of this Parish who appears to us a Very honest man and one Qualified and Disposed to do Justice—Thus hoping y^t your Excellency and y^e Hon^{le} Council will take this our petition under your wise Consideration and grant us our Request and as in Duty bound your Petitioners shall ever Pray

Deerfield Jany. y^e 29th 1774

Josiah Prescott Junr.

Joshua Leavitt

Jonathan Philbrick

Enos Sanborn

Nathaniel Philbrick

Benjamin Folsom

Nemiah Cram

Thomas Berley

Levi Harvey

Itliel Smith

Peter Sanborn

Wadleigh Cram

Henry Tucker
 Josiah Smith
 Tristram Sanborn
 William Graves
 Joseph Graves
 Ephraim Brown
 Josiah Sanborn
 James Philbrick
 Nathan Philbrick

John Eastman
 Joseph Merrill
 John Merril
 Nathan Sanborn
 David Haines
 Samuel Hoit
 John Philbrick
 Joel Cram
 Joseph Hoit

*Petition of Inhabitants of y^e Southerly part of Deerfield
 to be made a Parish.*

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain Generall
 Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majes-
 ty's Province of New Hampshire in New England. To the
 Hon^{ble} His Majestys Councill and House of Representatives
 for said Province Convened in General Assembly. Most
 Humbly Sheweth

The Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of the South-
 erly Part of the Parish of Deerfield in the Township of Not-
 tingham in the County of Rockingham in said Province That
 the said Parish of Deerfield is Principally Settled at & near
 the Two Extreme parts of it viz: the Northerly End and the
 Southerly End which makes it very Difficult to meet All to-
 gether for Publick Worship or for Transacting the Pub-
 lick business of the Parish

That there are Two Meeting houses in said Parish for the
 Publick Worship and Two Ministers Regularly Called & Set-
 tled there and Also Two Military Companies in said Parish
 viz one at each end also Two Constables and but one sett of
 Selectmen which are Annually Chosen in the North Part of
 said Parish

That your Petitioners have for some years Past been at the
 Charge of Building a Meeting house Settling & Supporting a
 Minister in the said South part of said Parish and have had no
 Benefits by the North Part of said Parish. Wherefore and for
 many other reasons which on a hearing shall be given to your
 Excellency and your Hon^{rs} Your Petitioners Humbly Pray
 your Excellency & hon^{rs} To Incorporate the said South Part of
 Deerfield into a Distinct Parish so as to take in the First three
 Ranges and one half of the Range highway between the Third
 and the fourth Ranges of Lotts, with such Priviledges & Im-
 munities as other Parishes in said Province Have and Do En-
 joy and under Such Restrictions and Limitations as to Your
 Excellency and hon^{rs} Shall Seem Most Mete—And your Peti-
 tioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c

Deerfield April 7th 1774

John Robinson
 James Young
 Jonathan Robinson
 David Robinson
 Jedediah Prescott
 Israel Clifford
 William Mooers
 Jedidiah Prescott Junr.
 Josiah Prescott Jun.
 Sanborn Cram
 Samuel Pulfer
 Josiah Sanborn
 Jonathan Judkins
 John Laurance
 Tristram Sanborn
 Samuel Winslow
 Thomas Berley
 Daniel Lad
 • Moses Marshall
 Joseph Judkins
 David Haines
 Benjamin Judkins
 John Morgan
 Jonathan Philbrick
 Wadleigh Cram
 James Philbrick

Benjamin Folsom
 Henry Tucker
 Ithiel Smith
 Ezekiel Gilman
 Joseph Graves
 Nemiah Cram
 John Gidden
 Nathan Sanborn
 Samuel Hoit
 William Haines
 John Thursten
 John Jones
 John Philbrick
 William Mudget
 Caleb Morss
 Levi Harvey
 Nathan Philbrick
 Ephraim Brown
 Josiah Smith
 John Merrill
 Joseph Merrill
 Asaph Merrill
 Nathaniel Lad
 John Prescott
 John Robinson Junr.

Province of) In the House of Representatives May 11th 1774
 New Hamp.) The within Petition being Read and Consider'd

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on the third Day of the Sitting of the General Assembly next after the twentieth Day of June next and that the Petitioners at their Own Cost Serve the Selectmen of Derryfield with a Copy of this Petition and Order thereon and also that the Petitioners Cause the Substance of this Petition and Order to be Published in the New Hampshire Gazette three weeks Successively that any Person May Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition should not be Granted

M. Weare, Cl^k

In Council eodem Die
 Read and concu^rd

Geo King D. Secy.

DERRYFIELD.

[NOTE. The following Papers relating to Derryfield are found in MS. Vol. IV, "Towns,"—pp. 307-308, being there misplaced. They should be examined in connection with Papers relating to Bedford and Londonderry. Ed.]

To his excellency Benning Wintworth Esq Governor & Commander In Chief of His Majesties Province of New

Hampshir the honorable his Majestys Councell and House of Representatives In General Assembly Conven'd—

The pettition of a number of the freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Derry field Humbly Sheweth that the first Monday of March annually is appointed by Charter to be the day for chusing of Town officers for the currant year and the usual costum of s^d town has ben to warn the Town of time and place and design of holding said Meeting with the several articles to be acted upon on s^d day of posting up a copy of Warrant at three several places in said town viz. one at John Goffe Esq one at John Hall & one at Mr Russes at Nameskeeg which was a vote of said Town for warning Town meetings in said Town but so it was that neither of the places had any notification set up and one of them particularly Nameskeeg had no copy set up in that part of the town so that they knew not the time of Day the meeting was to be held yet notwithstanding two of the select men and town clarke did contrary to former custom with about ten or a dozen of the Inhabitants and boys & unquallyfied persons did enter and in about five minutes time chouse all the principal offi cersers for the town Notwithstanding one of the select men & the constable & several of the Inhabitants opposed them and told them it was not fair to hold the meetin before the Inhabitants came and that it was not the usual time of day that the meeting use to begin & that the Inhabitants that must pay the greatest part of the Taxes that shall come upon the town were not present—that they would be here presently yet they proceeded as aforesaid and at five minute's after eleven of the clock a considerable number came & in halfe an hour the Inhabitants chiefly came & upon hearing that the principal officers were chosen by a small number of Voters and many of them not quallitied they concluded as that was the day by charter to chuse town officers, they being the largest part of the Quallified Voters belonging to said town maid proclamation that they were going to hold the town meeting & all were desired to attend and they went to the Meeting house and maid choice of a Moderator & Town clark & select men & all town officers & they were sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty as the Law directs so that their is two set of officers in said town which makes confusion we most Humbly therefore pray your Excellency & Hon^{rs} To Take our case under your wise consideration and grant that there may be a Regular town meeting in said town & that we may have town Officers chosen as the law directs and that our confusion may be brought into order and might be enabled to Raise the province taxes & mend high ways & do the necessary business of the town and that your Petitioners may bring in a bill for that end—& your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray—

Dated at Derry field first of May 1766.

John Goffe
 William McClintock
 David Sturrett
 Samuel Boyd
 Nathaniel Boyd
 Charles Emerson
 William Nutt
 John Griffen
 John Stark

James McCalley
 Samuel Stark
 Daniel McNeill
 Thos Russ
 John Rand
 John Hervey
 Samuel Moor
 John Moor.

Province of)
 New Hamp.) In the house of Representatives June 26th 1766.

The foregoing Petition being Read and Considered—

Voted—That the Petitioners be heard thereon on fryday the fourth day of July next if the General Assembly be then sitting And if not then sitting thereon the second day of their sitting next after And that the petitioners at their own cost cause the selectmen and Town Clerk who served the Dury field for the year 1765. to be served with a Copy of this petition and Order of Court that they may appear and shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eod^o die

Read & Concurr'd—

T. Atkinson Jr. Secy.

Province of)
 New Hamp.) In the House of Representatives July 4th 1766—

The foregoing Petition being Consider'd And the Parties heard thereon—

Voted—That the prayer of the Petition be granted And that the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly—

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eod^o die

Read & Concurr'd

T. Atkinson Jr. Secy.

DOVER.

[This was one of the first settled towns in New Hampshire, Portsmouth being the other. It was settled in the Spring of 1623. by Edward and William Hilton, brothers, from London. It was first called Pascentaquack, as was also Portsmouth; afterwards Cochecho and Northam. It has borne the name of Dover for more than 200 years. ED.]

Extracts from the Records of Dover.

Att a Town meeting 30th of the 6^{mo} '43.

30th 6^{mo} '43

It is this day ordered that William Pomfret Shail have the Neck of

Land between the Mouth of Cochecha River and Nechewanick River with the Marsh thereupon to the first Narrow

March y^e 19th 1693-4

By the Comitte Chosen by the freeholders of the Town of dover for granting Land given and granted unto Ephraim Tebbetts his heirs and assigns for Ever Twenty Acres of Land on fresh Creek Neck to butt on Nechewanick River next to Saint Albonds cove. Test william Ferber Clark of s^c Committee

This Above grant voated and Confearmed in generall Town Meeting the Second day of Aprill 1694.

Vera Copia.

Test John Tuttle Towne Clerk

Laid out to Ephraim Tebbetts according to grant Twenty acres of Land on fresh Creek neck and bounded it as followeth viz at a white oak Tree markt E T from thence South an be west 40 Rods to a white oak markt E T Then west an be north 4 score Rods to A Pich Pine markt E T then north and be East 40 Rods to a Pich Pine markt E T then on a straight Line to the first markt Tree the River is the bounds at the East End Laid out and bounded by us this tenth day of July 1694

SAM^l HEARD
EZEKIEL WENTWORTH
THOMAS DOWNS

Petition for bridging Cochecho and Lamprey River.

To His Excellency Samuel Shute Esq. Capt. General and Gov^r in Chief of His Majestys province of New Hampshire. and to the Honourable the Council and house of representatives now Sitting in General Assembly

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dover Most humbly Sheweth

The heavy burthen lying upon your petitioners, in building and renewing the many bridges in The said town. over and above the ordinary annual repairs of High ways through the same whereby your petitioners have stood charged wth a much greater and more grievous tax than any other Town in the province more especially for the Erecting and maintaining Two very large Bridges over the river of Cochecho and Lamprey river; exclusive of which two rivers, your petitioners are more than even wth the Inhabitants of any Neighboring town in y^e Costs of bridging and whereas the last years floods floated away the boom at Cochecho with 3 piers and the Standing bridge at Lamprel river which are now to be rebuilt your petitioners Do therefore humbly pray that the bridging of The Said Two rivers may be made a province Charge to be defrayed out of the publick Treasury As is usual in other Govern^{ts} & y^r petition^{rs} shall Ever pray &c

R. WALDRON }
STEP. JONES } Committee
PAUL GERRISH }

*Copy of letter to the Selectmen of Dover and Exeter
ab^t bridge.*

Gentlemen

I am commanded by the Hon^{ble} y^e L^t Gov^r & Council to let you know that it is their direction to you that you have a suitable bridge built Pursuant to y^e foregoing reports (which y^e Gen^l Assm have accepted) with all possible dispatch and that it is their Expectation that you will improve every opportunity in forwarding so necessary a work and that there be no failure on any part (or by any means) in Complying with this order I am Gent^l

Y^r Most humble Serv^t

R. WALDRON Cler Con

Jany 20th 1723-4

To the Selectmen of
Dover & Exeter

Acct^s of pretenders to Land at Cochecho Point.

		Acres
W ^m Stiles bought of Ephraim Libbey	grant	20
Jones	grant	20
Dan ^l Gordon	Do	20
Nath Tarbox	Do	20
Tho. Cole. Shackfords by execution grant to Watson &		
sold to Nat Young	Do	20
L ^t Harvill Roby	not Laid out	30
Tho & Nat Roberts 30 acres ap's	grant	60
Daniel Jacobs	Do	20
Capt. Tuttle 2 g: 31	Do	60
Tho Rob ^t w th ——— had for wives portion	Do	20
Capt. Libbey Thorn Ben Marsh?	Do	20
Sam Cosen from his Father	Do	20
Howard Henderson w th Cook had	Do	20
Old Mr. Henderson	No grant	40
Blackstone	ab ^t	10
Jos Canney of which Clark 4 acres gran.		20
		420

Petition ab^t Grammar School at Dover.

Province of)

New Hamps)

To the hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq^r Lieu^t Gov^r & Commander in Chief for the Time being of s^t Province & to the hon^{rs} the Councill and house of Representatives Conven'd in Gen^l Assem^{ly}

The humble Petition of the Representatives for the Township of Dover in Behalf of s^t Town humbly sheweth

That whereas the said Town is one of the most exposed Towns in this Province to the Insults of the Indian Enemy And also whereas by an Act of the General Assembly of this

Province Entitled An act for y^e Settlem^t & Support of Gram-
mar Schools, the said Town of Dover (amongst others) is
obleided by s^d act to keep and maintain a Gramere School.

And whereas the Circumstances & Situation or Settlements
of the Inhabitants of s^d Town lying and being in such manner
as it is, the houses being so scattered over the whole Township
that in No one place six houses are within call. By which in-
conveniency the Inhabitants of s^d Town can have no benefit of
such a Gramar Schoole, for at the times fit for children to go
and come from schools is Generally the chief Time of the In-
dians Doing Mischief, so that the Inhabitants are afraid to send
their children to Schoole, and the children Dare not venture so
y^t y^e Sallary to s^d Schoole Master is wholly Lost to s^d Town.

So that your Petitioners at the Request & in behalfe s^d Town
humbly prays y^e hon^{ble} & Generall Assembly that there may be
an act of this Generall Assembly Past that the s^d Town of
Dover may be Exempted from keeping a Gramar School Dur-
ing the war with the Indians, as formerly they were so prays
your humble Petitioners

JAMES DAVIS
SAM^l TEBETS
TIM. GERRISH

August 29th 1772

In Council.

Voted That The prayer of This petition be granted for the reasons
Therein Mentioned and That The petitioners have leave to bring in a
bill accordingly

Rich^d Waldron Cler Con.

August y^e 29th 1722

In the house of Representatives, read and lies for Consideration

August the 30th In the house of Representatives read and Concurred
with Provided they keep a Schoole for reading and writing & Arith-
metic

James Jeffrey
Clerk Assembly

Selectmen of Dover's petition and votes thereon.

Pro. N. Hamp

To the Honourable The Lieu^t Governour and Command^r in
chief of said Province and to the Hon^{ble} y^e Council and house
of Representatives convened in General Assembly.

The Petition of the Selectmen in behalf of the Town of
Dover humbly *Sheweth*

That whereas y^e late bridge over Lamprey river has been
carried away by a freshet for want of a firm foundation and a
passage over that river being so necessary and useful Especially
at this time

We Therefore most humbly pray that a Committee May be

appointed to view the said river and the landings on Each side in order to finding a more convenient place to build anew so as to prevent the like Misfortune wth y^r former and Make a report of their doings at y^r next Sessions and yo^r petition^r Shall ever pray &c

June 1st 1723.

RICH^d WALDRON
BENJ^t WENTWORTH } Selectmen
NICOLAS HARFORD }

In Coun June 1st 1723.

Voted That Six Indifferent Persons be chosen a Committee To survey lamprey River and Report to His Honour the Lieu^t Gov^r and Council as soon as conveniency will permit y^r Most commodious place for building a bridge a Cross said River and that Col^t Walton M^r Ew^d Ayres & Mr. Benj^t Thomas be three of y^e Committee to Joyn wth y^e Gentlemen whom y^r house shall appoint

Rich Waldron, Cler Con.

Eoden Die In the house of Representatives

Voted a Concurrence with the above vote (with this Proviso) y^t y^e Petitioners pay y^e Charges of the Comittee and that Coll Peter Weare Coll John Plaistow Esq^r and y^t W^m More be three of y^e Comittee for y^e end afores^d

James Jeffrey Cl^r Assⁿ.

Petition and complaint against Richard Waldron Esq.

Province of)
New Hampshire }

To His Excellency William Burnet Esq^r Governour and Commander in Chief in and over His Maj^{ty}'s Province of New Hampshire &c and to the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council for said Province

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the s^d Province Most humbly *Sheweth* That divers of your Pet^{rs} for upwards of Forty years, others for Thirty, have been Settled upon a certain Tract or Neck of Land in Dover in the Province afores^d being duly put into possession thereof by the Freeholders of s^d Town as by their Votes will appear: all which time was partly spent in Subduing the Indian Enemy and partly in Subduing and Cultivating the wild Land so given and granted to them, That after such a length of time when your Petitioner had with much blood and Labour reduced the Former to reason, and the latter to profit, and expected to enjoy the Sweet of all their Encounters and pains in the year 1719 Richard Waldron Esq^r as Adm^r to the Estate of his Father Richard Waldron formerly of s^d Dover Esq^r deced brought his action against your Petitr^s and others for the Recovery of one Moiety of said Neck of Land pretending one half thereof was granted to him by the Selectmen of that Town so long ago as the 5th of the 10th Month 1652 and the

other half to William Furbur and others, whereas it's Evident from the Votes of s^t Town many years after that William Furbur and the whole Town Esteemed that Grant when the said Town was under the Massachusetts Government of no Validity For the s^t William Furbur in 1693-4 attests to Votes and Grants of the Freeholders of Dover afores^d of part and parcels of the s^t Land; however at a Superior Court the s^t Waldron Recovered the s^t Moiety and upon an appeal before the Hon^{ble} the Lieut. Governor and Council the appellants making Default the Judgement of the Superior Court was Confirmed; the reason of such Default is easily accounted for so that by s^t Judgement the s^t Waldron was to hold in Common one Moiety of s^t Neck with y^r Pet^r and others: That some time after the s^t Waldron brought his writ of Partition to hold his part in Severalty, and accordingly the 12th day of April 1728 a Jury went on the s^t Neck and divided the Same, giving the upper part thereof to s^t Waldron and your Pet^r the lower half where their Settlem^t Orchards and Improvements were made, as by their return under their hands and Seals will appear, which was most equal & Just. & virtually agreeing with the Judgement of the Hon^{ble} the Lieut. Governour and Council upon the appeal that the s^t Waldron might not be profited by your Pet^r's buildings; but the s^t Waldron being thus in part defeated of his Expectation, by management under the colour of Law & practice, but not warranted by either, as upon a hearing before your Excellency and Hon^{ty} will evidently appear, procured another Jury in September Following to make the Division De Novo, who without making themselves acquainted with the Tract and the Survey thereof as the Former Jury had done, at once and without any trouble Confirmed the Divisional lines the Former Jury had made and Established the Same, but gave the lower half where Stood your Pet^r's Houses Barns Orchards and all their clear Land to s^t Waldron and gave them the upper half which the Former Jury had given to Waldron so that your Pet^r after upwards of thirty years labour and the Expence of much blood and the sweat of their Brows are thereby with their wives and Children drove into the wild wilderness, and all this so done under the Shew of Justice and Equity within a civilized Government.

Your Pet^r therefore persuade themselves from your Excellencies Superior and most distinguishable abilities and virtues, and from the Experienced Justice and Equity seated in Your Excellency and Hon^{ty}, that they shall have a short day assigned them to be heard by their Council on the premises, and that they shall receive Such redress and relief as to Law Justice and Equity shall appertain

And the Pet^{rs} as in duty bound will ever pray &c

ELISHA CLARK

JAMES WELLMET

April 4th 1729.

HOWARD HENDERSON

JOSEPH CANNE

ABIGAIL BLACKSTON

Petition of the Inhab. of the N. E. part of Dover for a Parish.

To his Excellency William Burnet Esqr. Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hamp^t the Honourable his Majesties Council and the Representatives of the s^t province in General Assembly Convened

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the North East part of the Town of Dover, humbly *sheweth*—That the Dwelling places of yo^r Petitioners are at a great distance from the houses of the Public Worship of God in the Town of Dover where your Petitioners live by which their attendance thereon is rendered very difficult more especially to the women and children of their families and that in the Winter Season and in Stormy weather So y^t they cannot pay that Honour and Worship to God in publick as it is their hearts desire they could, therefore for the advancing the Interest of Religion and for the Accommodation of yo^r Petitioners It is humbly prayed by them that Your Excellency and the Honourable Assembly will please to sett them off as a Parrish for the Maintaining the Public worship of God amongst themselves and that they be dismiss'd from the Town of Dover as to the Supporting of the Settled Minister there. And that the Bounds of that their Parish may begin at the Gulfs a place so called at Cochecho river, and from thence to run to Varney's Hill and from thence the Town bounds on a North West point of the Compass & Your Petitioners Shall ever Pray as in duty bound &c

Paul Wentworth
Thomas Alden
Elazar Wyer?
Lowe Roberts
Jeremiah Rawlings
Silvanns Nock
James Hales
Thomas Hobbs
William Streley?
George Ricker
Tho^s Downs
Philip Yetten
Thomas Nock

John Roberts
Samuel Randall
Samuel Cosen
——? Ricker
Ephraim Ricker
Jos Ricker
Joshua Roberts
John Hail
Moses Tebbets
William Downs
John Tebbets
Benj^e Peirce
Mahonan Recker

Zacheriah Nock
 Philip Staepole
 Thomas Miller
 Nath Perkins Jun.
 Samuel Roberts
 Benjamin Wamouth
 John Conyer?
 Wilam Chesle?
 Joseph Husey
 Ichabd Tebbets
 James Staepole
 Benj^r Varney
 Ebenezer Garland
 Samuel Downas
 Richard Wintworth
 Joseph Wintworth
 John Connor
 Thor Wallingford
 Moris Hobbs

Thomas Tebbets
 Benjamin Stanton
 Ebe Wentworth
 Samuel Jones
 Joseph Peney
 Philip Pappou
 James Gupey
 Josiah Clark
 John Mason
 Benjamin Twomble
 William Jones
 Daniel Plumer
 Jabez Garland
 Hugh Connor
 Job Clements
 John Roberts
 Edward Ellis
 Samuel Ally
 William Thompson

April the 25th 1729 In the house of

In the house of Representatives. The within Petition being read

Voted the Petitioners serve that part of the Town of Dover that they Desir'd to be set off from with a Copy of this Petition to appeare at the General Assembly Wednesday next the Show Cause (if the con) why the prayer of the Petition Should not be Granted

In Council Read & die

Read and Concurred with

R. Waldron Cler Con

*Petition of Eleazer Weare in behalf of Inhab^{ts} of N. E.
 part of Dover.*

To His Excellency William Burnet Esq^r Govern^r and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hamp^t & to the Honourable the Council and Representatives in Gen^l Assembly convened.

The Humble Petition of Eleazer Weare in the behalf of the Inhabitants of the North East part of the Town of Dover *Sheweth*

That the Inhabitants of the afores^d North East part of the Town of Dover upon their Petition by them Subscribed presented to your Excellency and to the Honourable Assembly that they might be set off as a Separate Parish did obtain an order that their Petition Should be heard on Wednesday the Nineteenth day of April last and that the Inhabitants of the Parish of Dover should be notified to attend the Same on the s^d day. yet so it happens that the s^d day is past and yet the Inhabitants of Dover not notified nor any hearing of the s^d Petition had. Your Petitioner therefore prays that your Excellency and this Honourable Assembly would please to appoint

a Day that so the afores^d Petition May be heard and that the Town of Dover be notified to make answer if any Your Petitioner shall ever pray as in duty bound

ELEAZER WYER

Dover 1 May, 1729

In the House of Representatives—

Voted That the prayer of this petition be granted & the Town of Dover be notified by the petitioners Serving the Selectmen with a Copy of the Petition & that the Town be Directed to Send some person or persons to represent them & give reasons if any they have why the pray^r of the s^d Petition should not be granted & to appear the Eighth day of Ins^t May or if the Assembly be not then sitting then to appear the Second day of the Sitting of next Gen^l Ass^m

James Jeffrey Cl^r Ass^m

May 1st 1729

In Council May 2^d

Read & Concurr'd

R. Waldron Cler. Con.

*Petition of Paul Gerrish and others of Dover, relating to
frauds and forgeries.*

To the Honourable John Wentworth Esq^r L^t Gov^r Command^r
In Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire To the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representatives convened in General Assembly for Said Province

The humble Petition of Paul Gerrish of Dover in New Hamp^{re} aforesaid and several of the principal Inhabitants of said Town

Most humbly Sheweth That for these two years last past the said Paul Gerrish has been Clerk of the said Town of Dover and since the books of the said Town have been in the said Gerrish's hands, he has discovered a Great deal of Corruption (or forgery as he apprehends acted and done in the said books) as he supposes by those persons (or their permission) whose hands they formerly have been in, and that said principal Inhabitants of said Town are Stil of opinion that there are now through the ill actions formerly done a great many forged grants stil produced and bro't to the lot layers of said Town to be laid out who with great reason suspecting them refuse to lay them out and on their refusal those persons who have got those grants apply to the next Town Lot lay^{rs} who lay such grants out, whereby the Town of Dover is very greatly dammied and set in confusion and if some remedy cannot be found out for their relief will be almost ruin'd—They Therefore most humbly Pray That yo^r Hon^r and the Gen^l Assem will take the premises under your mature Consideration and make such

orders thereupon as may (if possible) rectify the horrible Injustice that has been done the Town by such false entrys and Effectually prevent the Confusion which the Town will otherwise unavoidably be in and yo^r petition^s as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Dec^r 15th 1729

Paul Gerrish
Paul Wentworth
John Cannie
John Waldron
John Waldron Jun^r
Ezra Kimbal
John Hammock
James Chesley
Eph^a Wentworth
W^m Forst
W^m Welland
Eben^r Varney
Eben^r Varney Jun^r
Thom^s Pinkham
Nath^l Young
Israel Hogsdon
Mark Gyles
Tob^s Hanson Jun^r
Edward Ellis
Gersh^m Wentworth Jun.
Israel Hogsdon
Trist Comin
Benj^s Hanson
Moses Winget
Tho^s Millit
John Young
Rich^d Plumer
Jos Hanson Jun^r
Tob^s Hanson

David Watson
.Hobs
Tho^s Alden
Joseph Conner
Daniel Goodin
W^m Styles
Sam^l Dam
Sam^l Styles
John
Nath^l Varny
Eleaz^r Wyer
El^r Wyar Jun^r
Syle^s Nock
James Hobs
Thom^s Wallingford
Eben^r Wentworth
Eben^r Garland
Sam^l Jones
Josh^s Roberts
John Thompson
Jon^s Merrow
James Guppy
Nath^l Perkins
John Rickar
Eph^m Rickar
George Rickar
Gersh^m Wentworth
Sam^l Wentworth
John Wentworth

True Copy

Rich^d Waldron Cler. Con.

In the House of Represen^{ts} Dec. 16 1729.

The annexed Petition of the Town Clerk of Dover and others of said own was read and

Voted Thereon, That the Clerk of the said Town of Dover for the time being be hereby prohibited entering any of those old Comittee Grants that are Suspected not to be legally obtained and to enter only such Grants as have or may be allowed by said Town or the Select Men thereof until the next Siting of the General Assembly and that there be a Comittee chosen by the Gen^l Assembly to go to the Town Clerk for the Time being who is hereby required to shew unto such Comittee such Entrys Matters and things as he or any of the Said Town suppose to be done by ill practice and the said Comittee shall by Virtue hereof summon before them all such persons that can give any light in Explaining any matters or things they may see occasion to Examine for discovery of truth and detecting such vile practices and to give such person or persons their Oaths and to make returns of their doings therein to the General Assembly next session

And that Nath^l Weare Esqr. and Theod^s Atkinson Esq^{re} be a Commit-

tee of this House to Joyn such as shall be appointed above for that end and that the Petitioners pay the Charges

James Jeffrey Cler Assm

In Council Dec^r 18th 1729

Read and Concurr'd and Joth Odiorne & Henry Sherburne Esq^{rs} appointed for the Service above

Richd. Waldron Cler Con.

True Copy Examined,

Rich^d Waldron Cler Con—

Province of)
New Hamp^s

We whose names are underwritten being of the Committee for the Ends within mentioned have been at Dover & upon a Strict enquire of all persons that we tho't or suspected could give us any Information as also we haveing searched the Town Book do report thereon as followeth we do finde by the s^t Town book that great forgery & fraud hath been used & frequently practiced by Entering grants Many years back in the Inter Spaces of the Book & that the Book hath often been exposed & Lay open to many persons to enter what Grants they saw proper therein & that we found many of the s^t Originall Grants in the former Town Clerks hand which appeared to us to be fraudulent & Deceitful which have been Entered in s^t book as afore^d—that Great Quantities of Land hath been Laid out by Virtue of the s^t Grants by which we Imagine The Town hath been Striped of at Least fifteen Thous^d pounds worth of Land as witness our hand this 24th March 1729-30.

JOTHAM ODIORNE	} Comtee
HEN SHERBURNE	
THEODORE ATKINSON	

Report about Dover Town Book.

Whereas the Generall Assembly of this his Maj^{ty} Province upon reading the report of the Committee formerly appointed by s^t Assembly to Examine Dover Town book: Wee whose names are hereunto Subscribed were appointed by the Gen^l Assembly to make a more exact & particular inquiry into the Seve^l Grants & returns in s^t Book supposed to be Vicious & Corrupt as pr. s^t Vote of the 30th of Decem^{br} 1730 will appear & having Strictly examined s^d Town Books & files as alsoe the the former Town Clerk & other Persons from whom we could receive any Insight or Information & Do report that all the Grants & returns mentioned in this report we Imagine to be fraudulent Corrupt & Vicious for the reasons mentioned with Each record herein recited as

1st In the old Book Page (120) a grant made in the 10th of the 11th month (59) & A return made & entred by Cap^t Tho^s Tibbets the Late Clerk & in a space amongst the record made many years before he was Clerk & the time of his recording it was entered with the s^t Grant & return & afterward erased & the Clerk acknowledged he recorded it, beside we viewed the originall & finde it all of one hand and signing

2^d In the New book Page (9) a grant made by a Committee whereof William Furbur was Clerk for 60 acres of Land made to the reverend Mr. John Pike Dated the 23^d June 1701, & confirmed by the Town the 23^d march 1702 This Cap^t Tho^s Tibbets swears he doth not know how it came upon record & that Doctor Pike had been with him to get the s^t Grant &c recorded but he refused to Enter it being as he believed not good. Notwithstanding tis entred in a Vacancy Left in s^t book formerly & in a Different hand from the records of that Time & some obliterations

3^d In s^d Book Page (16) a grant made by s^d Committee for (30) acres of Land to Cap^t Tho^s Tibbets on the 3^d of June 1701 because entred by Cap^t Tibbets son Sam^l as he himself Declares upon oath amongst the records made by Cap^t Tuttle & we observed that the Date of the record, in the same page both before & after were in the year (1694) but we could not obtain any originall.

4th In page 19 a grant made to Nich^s Harrison for (60) acres on the 19th 1693-4 & confirmed by the Town In the month of April following Entred in a Space amongst the records made by Cap^t Tuttle & not in his hand and Differing from his s^d Tuttle's method

5th In y^r (27th) a grant made by s^d Committee to Cap^t Sam^l Tibbets in the year 1694 recorded in an unusuall hand & crowded in a Vacancy amongst the records the originall Sam^l Carle Swears he had of one Burnham & Cap^t Tho^s Tibbets Swears he refused to record it believing it not to be good yet we find it recorded

6th Page (32) a Grant made to Nath^l Tibbets for 30 acres Dated the 11th April 1694 by s^d Committee & Confirmed the 16th of the same month by the Town Crowded in between Tuttle's record in an unusuall hand & by the originall it appears that Furbur the Clerk of the Committee's name neither wrote or spelt as he used to Do & the grant & confirmation of the same hand writing

7th In Page (37) Grant to Francis Pitman by The Town of April the 6th 1701 for forty acres crowded in with Tuttle's records in an unusuall hand Tho^s Tibbets Swears that he doth not know whether he recorded it or not but that he did enter some Grants & returns in Cap^t Tuttle's vacancy in s^d book

8th In Page (52) June the 23^d 1701 a grant by s^d Committee to Jeremiah Burnum for 50 acres entred in one of Tuttle's Vacancies & by Tibbets himself as he swears but tis not signed by any Clerk.

9th In Page (75) June 23^d 1701 a grant to Nath^l Landers by the s^d Committee & Entred by Tibbets in the Bottom of a Leaf with Tuttle records as appears by the hand writing & his acknowledgement & the Different Inck & the originall appears not to be the writing of Furbur the Clerk of the Committee which we rec^d from Tibbets

10th Page (76) grant to Roger Vose for Three score acres of Land & meadow by s^d Committee the 19th march 1693-4 & confirmed by the Town the 2^d April 1694 crowded in amongst Tuttle's Entries in a Different hand and different Collierd Inck from the Entry before & after

11th 85th Page grant to Eli Dimerrest for 30 acres of Land the 11th April 1694 & Confirmed the 16th April 1694 Tibbets acknowledges he entred in a Vacancy Left by Tuttle since he was Clerk

12th 91 Page a grant by the s^d Committees to John Tuttle & Ezek^l Wentworth for 30 acres of Land by s^d Committee June 23^d 1701 entred by Cap^t Tibbets at the Bottom of Tuttle's entres not Confirmed by the Town nor signed by the Clerk of the Committee for Town.

13th 93rd Page a grant to Jere Barnum for 40 acres april 11th 1694 crowded in at the Bottom of Tuttle's record & supposed to be Vicious it being in an unusuall hand writing

14th Page 94 a grant by s^d Committee for 40 acres to Jere Barnum & not confirmed by the Town This Tibbets Upon oath says he recorded in a Vacancy of Tuttle's record about 7 years since

15th Page 95 a grant made by the s^d Committee to Tho^s Roberts the 11th April 1694 & confirmed the 16th April following & we find the Grant was made to Tho^s Roberts Tertius which is Left out in the record & Tibbets swears he entred it himself James Hanson swears he got the originall of Eben^t Young who told him s^d Hanson if he would get it recorded he should have half of it and accordingly the s^d Hanson swears he went to Cap^t Tibbets & gave him Two gall^{ns} rum & ord^{ly} Abner Young to pay him Twenty Shillings in money for recording it

16 Page (95) granted by s^t Committee fifty acres to Rich^d Husey & Confirmed the 16th april 1694 crowded amongst Tuttle's writing in an unusual hand Different Couliord Inck.

17 Page 101 granted to Abraham Clark the 23^d June 1701 & Confirmed the 6th of April 1702 Tibbets swears he recorded about Three years since & the s^t Clark swears that Mi-hack Drew & William Hill asked him about that time if he would sell him his grant of Land if they could finde it upon record & promised them they should have it & some time after they told him it was recorded & then bargained with him for Ten pounds & about this Time the s^t Clark asked Cap^t Tibbets if he had any Grant & he Told him he did not love to enter such false things

18th 103 Page a grant by s^t Committee to Pumphret Whitehouse June 23 1702 for 50 acres entred amongst Tuttle's records & Tibbets he recorded it himself and by the original it appears not to be furburs writing it being different from his hand & his name not spelt right

19 Page 104 a grant by s^t Committee for 50 acres of the 19th of March 1693-4 confirmed the 11th of april 1694 made to Bryant Higgins This Tibbets swears he recorded amongst Tuttle's records & that Tho Davis Bro^t to him about 5 years past to have it recorded

20 Page 105 a grant by s^t Committee to Rob^t Allen in the year 1701 & confirmed 6th april 1702 for 40 acres Tibbets swears he recorded amongst Tuttle's records about four years past.

21 Page 113 11th 1701 a Grant by s^d Committee for 40 acres of Land This Tibbets swears he entered about 5 or 6 years since & in a Vacancy in Tuttle's Entries the original appears to be altered & not writ by Furbur the Clerk it differing Both in writing & spelling.

22 Page 120 June 3^d 1701 granted by s^t Committee to George Chesley & Confirmed by the 23^d March 1702—50 Acres of Land entred by Tibbets as he swears about 5 years Since & the original it appears that the Grant & Confirmation to be both of one hand & yet neither Furbur's nor Tuttle's writing.

23 Page 130 In the year 1699 & no Day nor month a grant made by the Select men to Jo^s Jenkins 40 acres which Tibbets Swears he Entred himself & amongst Tuttle's records & swears he signed the originall not as a Select man but as a witness he remembering the grant to have been made about the year above s^d which Induced him to write the Grant & record it.

24 Page 131 April 11th 1694 Granted by s^d Committee to Joseph Smith Jun^r & Confirmed the 16th Day of April 16th April 1694 Tibbets swears he recorded amongst Tuttle's records & that the original was altered & obliterated before he entred it from 60 acres to 40 acres

26 132 Page granted June 23^d 1701 by the Committee afores^d 30 acres to Nath Pittman Tibbets entred amongst Tuttle's record about 5 or 6 years since & the original appears not to be Furburs writing & much Interlined

27 Page 136 June 23^d 1701, granted by s^d Committee to John Rand forty acres of Land which is not Confirmed by this Town This Tibbets Entred 10th Tuttle's records about 5 or 6 years since

28 Page 139. June 23^d 1701, a grant to Joseph Jenkins by said Committee Tibbets swears he entred about seven years ago

29 Page 141 May 28th 1701, a grant to John Pinkham for Twenty acres the original appearing not to be the writing of the said Furbur nor his signing his name not being spelt Right

30 Page 147 April 11 1701, a grant by the Committee to John Hanson for 60 acres not confirmed by the Town & y^e originall neither wrote nor signed by the Clerk.

31 Page 149. April 11 1694 granted by the Committee to Joseph Joanes 40 acres who says that he had the o-iginal from Barnum and that he

Got it allowed by the Selectmen since & had it recorded for the common fees

32 Page 157 a grant by the Committee of the 11th April 1693-4 to Richard rendall for 30 acres This grant Nath^l rendall Swears he had of Burnum & Cap^t Tibbets swears he recorded it but the original appears not to be the hand writing of Furbur nor signed by him

33 Page (152) June 23^d 1701. Granted to James Davis 60 acres of Land Entred by Tibbets the original grant being much Interlined & scratched. Coll Davis says upon oath that Burnum asked him what he should give him for a grant of Land & s^d Davis answered he knew of no Grant but what was upon record & that his son Some time after went to Burnum & got the grant and carried it to Capt. Tibbets to record

34th Page (153) granted by s^d Committee to Sam^l Chesley 40 acres April 11, 1694 but not confirmed Entred by Tibbets but the original not furburs writing nor signing—

35 Page (154) June 23^d 1701 Granted by the s^d Committee to Richard Clark not Confirmed nor wrote nor signed by the Clerk of s^d Committee

36 Page 154—April 16th Day 1702 granted at a Town meeting to Sam^l Perkins 30 acres of Land the original not wrote or signed by the Committee

37 Page 153 June 23^d 1701 granted by the Committee to Ely Demerret for 10 acres under the same Circumstances as the above grant to Perkins

38 Pag 155 June 23^d 1701 granted by the Committee to Amos Pinkham 40 acres not confirmed by the Town & the original not signed by the Committee or any Clerk and yet in the record willim Furbur is Entred as Clerk.

39 Page 155 June 23^d 1701 a grant by the Committee to James Nute of 40 acres not wrote or signed by Furbur the Clerk

40 Page 156 March 19th 1693-4 a grant by s^d Committee to Tristram Heard for 30 acres Vicious for reasons mentioned in James Nutes grant afores^d

41 Page 157 May 2^d 1701 granted by the Committee to Jo^s Ham 20 acres vicious for the same reasons

42 Page 158 April 11 1694 granted by the Committee to Rob^t Higgins 30 acres the original Interlined & otherwise vicious for the reasons above s^d

43 Page 158 June 23^d 1701 a Grant by the Committee to Josh Richards for 60 acres confirmed the 23 March 1702 both Grant & Confirmation the same hand & neither Furburs nor Tuttlés

44 Page (158) March 29th 1693-4 Granted by the Committee to Thomas Stevenson Thirty Acres of Land Vicious because not signed nor wrote by the Clerk

45 Page (162) June 23^d 1701 a grant by the Committee for 30 acres of Land to W^m Hill & Confirmed the 23^d of March 1702 because interlined & altered & the Grant & Confirmation both of one mans writing & neither of them of Furburs or Tuttlés writing

46 Page 162 April 11. 1694 a Grant to John Davis by the Committee for 30 acres no Confirmation of the Town & not of Furburs writing nor Signing

47 Page 124 June 23^d 1701 a grant to David Kinckad by the Committee & confirmed the 6th April 1702 both of the Same hand writing & it appearing by the records that the s^d Kinckad had a grant of the Same Date & Quantity of Land recorded before

48 Page 164 March 19. 1693-4 a Grant made by the Committee to Tho^s Drew & Confirmed the 2^d Day of April 1694 Tibbets swears Mishack Drew bro^t the Grant to him to record but Drew Denies he ever carryd any grant to him to record

49 Page 165 March 19th 1693-4 a grant made to Elias Cretchett for 3 Score acres of Land not confirmed Because wrote upon a new p^s of paper appears to have been cut off from a p^t of paper on which we find a Grant made to Abraham Benneck Seven years after the Stamp of the paper being partely on one & partely on the other & not of the Clerks writing

50 Page 165 June 23^d 1701 a Grant of s^d Committee to Abraham Benneck wrote on the p^t of Paper above mentioned & wrote by the Same except the Date of the Grant & Some few words besides

51 June 23^d 1701 In Page (167) a Grant by s^d Committee to Ichabod Rollings for 50 acres Confirmed 23^d March 1702 because not Signed by the Committee nor their Clerk & by the Town Clerk

52 Page 121 A grant by the s^d Committee for 30 acres to Nich^s Harford no date & the Grant & Petition for s^d Grant being on the Same p^s paper & wrote by the Same hand & Differs from the record because the record is Dated & the originall not

53 Page 106 March 19th 1693-4 a grant by Committee to the estate Joseph Field for 10 acres Confirmed the 16 April 1694 because all wrote by one hand & neither of them the Clerk either the Committee or the Town

54 Page () June 23^d 1701 a grant by the Committee to Cap^t Tho^s Tibbets for a small Gore of Land The originall was all of his own writing & Furburs name alsoe & he s^d Tibbets hath Entred in the records a Confirmation of the Town & on the originall there is no Such thing.

We alsoe reporte that many things appear Very Dark by the record which we have omitted because we could not come at the originall Grants nor finde any particular Information about them we alsoe by James Barnums own oath report that he purchased a bundle of these Grants from the wido of the s^d Furbur the Clerk & since that hath sold them to many persons & they have got them recorded

April 30 1731

HEN. SHERBURNE
NATH^l WEARE
THEO^d ATKINSON

Petition of Proprietors of Hilton's Point, Dover.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr. Cap^t Gen^l and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of New Hampshire to the hon^{le} the Councill and house of Representatives Conven'd in Gen^l Assembly

The humble Petition of the Proprietors of the neck of Land in the Town of Dover on the Point Commonly called Hiltons Point on Dover Neck most humbly Sheweth That whereas the high way from Bloody Point ferry Goes through the said neck of Land and altho' the said Neck is al Fenced up (only the Rhod way) whereby the Proprietors by reason of the way being open the proprietors of the Said neck of Land can have no Benefit thereof

Therefore y^r humble Petitioners Prayes that they may have an act to empower them to set up a Gate at the Entrance into the high way that Leads up from the Waters side by Cap^t Mil-

lets over hucklebery Hill (as has been usual) and whereby no obstruction can be to the High way and y^r Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

April the 30th 1731.

Tho^s Millet
Richard Plumer
Tho^s Canney
John Clements
Thomas Tibbets
Ephraim Tibbets
Joseph Roberts
Thomas Roberts
Otis Pinkham

In Concl May 3^d 1731

The Petition on the other side Read and ordered that the Petitioners Serve the Selectmen of the Town of Dover wth a Copy of the s^d Petition and this order That they may appear on thursday next at 10 o'clock A. M. to Shew cause if any they have why the Prayer of the said Petition should not be granted—and ordered to be sent down for Concurrence

Rich^d Waldron Secretary

Eodem Die In the House of Representatives

The above order read & concurr'd with

James Jeffrey Cler^r Ass^m

Cap^t Mathes a Select man of Dover appearing & not objecting

In Court May 6 1731

Voted That The Prayer of the w^{thin} Petition be granted and that the Petitioner have leave to bring In his bill accordingly

R. Waldron Sec^r

May 6th 1731 In the house of Representatives

The vote of the Council Read & Concur'd

James Jeffrey Cler^r Ass^m

Petition of People in Dover and other Towns for a Township.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esqr. Captain General and Comander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable His Majesties Council for s^d Province

The Humble Petition of divers of his Majesties Loyal Subjects Residing within the Province aforesaid Humbly sheweth that whereas there is a considerable Tract of land very commodious for Settlement lying nigh Winnepissocay Pond and we the Subscribers Your Humble Petitioners not having a competency of land to afford us a comfortable Subsistance Do Humbly Pray that Your Excellency and Honours would be pleased to grant unto us the Said tract of land for a township consisting of such dimensions & with such limitations restric-

tions & Conditions as you in your great wisdom shall think proper and your Humble Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Dover February 6th 1732-3

Sam ^l Emerson	William Stiles Junior
William Twombly	Moses Varney
John Horn	James Hobbs
William Hanson	Ichabod Hayes
Samuel Carll	Zechariah Nock
Joseph Hanson Jun ^r	Pomfret Whitehouse Jun ^r
John Cook	Benj ^a Ham
Sam ^l Young	Eleazer Ham
Nathan ^l Garland	Benj ^a Frost
Stephen Otis	John Garland
Maul Hanson	William Lord
John Canny Jun ^r	Sam ^l Starboard
Ichabod Kenny	Henry Hill
Joseph Tebbetts	Nathan ^l Lynn
John Denedy	John Pearl
John Layton	John Tebbetts Junior
Sam ^l Drown	John Tebbetts Tertius
Solomon Drown	John Follitt Junior
Edward Tebbetts	Solomon Perkins
John Twombly	John Hayes
Joseph Estes	John Hayes Junior
Sam ^l Carll Jun ^r	William Whitehouse
Nath ^l Carll	Benedictus Farr
Benj ^a Roberts	Thomas Horne Junior
James Bunker	Ichabod Horne
Thomas Canny	Sam ^l Perkins
Benj ^a Hanson Jun ^r	Thomas Layton
Benj ^a Hanson	Sam ^l Chesley
Sam ^l Smith	Solomon Eminerson
Sam ^l Smith Tertius	John Daniel Junior
Timothy Emmerson	Joseph Tebbetts Junior
Daniel Jacobs	Nicholas Meader
James Layton	Sam ^l Meader
Derry Primmer	Joseph Richards Jun.
John Tasker	John Roe
John Brown	Joseph Bunker
John Roberts Tertius	John Woodman
Isaac Watson	John Woodman Jun ^r
Timothy Roberts	Joshua Woodman
Nicholas Tuttle	Edward Woodman
John Horne Junior	Archelus Woodman
James Nute Junior	Nath ^l Varney
Benj ^a Bodge	Jonathan Young
Thomas Miller	William Horne
Joseph Varney	Richard Ward
Tobias Hanson	James Pinkham
Tobias Hanson Junior	John Field Jun ^r
Isaac Hanson	Daniel Meader
John Mellons	Thomas Drew Jun ^r
John Hanson	John Ham Jun ^r
Benj ^a Tebbetts	Joseph Roberts Jun ^r
Paul Tebbetts	James Nute

John Gage
 Job Clements
 John Carter
 Sam^l Nute
 Eli Demeritt Jun^r
 William Horn Jun^r
 John Bowdy
 Richard Pinkham
 Henry Tebbetts
 William Demeritt
 Timothy Tebbetts
 Job Demeritt
 Henry Bussy
 Thomas Tebbetts Jun^r
 Thomas Varney
 Sam^l Varney
 Joseph Conner
 Stephen Varney
 David Watson
 Dudley Watson
 Sam^l Davis
 Joseph Hicks
 Tho^s Bickford
 Ben^{ja} Demeritt
 Will^m Hill Jun^r
 Nath^l Lunnocks
 Thomas Ash
 Thomas Willey
 Stephen Willey
 John Ran
 Thomas Willey Jun^r
 John Ham
 Ephraim Ham
 Sam^l Ham
 Nath^l Ham
 Ichabod Tebbetts
 Sam^l Lamb
 Ben^{ja} Pierce
 Ben^{ja} Pierce Jun^r
 Jerem. Tebbetts Jun^r
 James Clark
 Zechariah Bunker
 James Bibard
 Timothy Moses Jun^r
 Joseph Daniel
 John Hammock
 John Layton Jun^r
 Hatevil Layton
 Nath^l Hanson
 Caleb Evans
 John Winget
 Rich^d Hammock
 Sam^l Merrow
 Jonathan Merrow
 Sam^l Merrow Junior
 Stephen Roberts
 Ebenezer Varney
 Ebenezer Roberts

Ben^{ja} Roberts Jun^r
 Ebenezer Varney Jun^r
 James Kelley
 Joseph Libby
 Otis Pinkham
 John Williams
 Dan^l Mis Harvey?
 John Miss Harvey?
 John Demeritt
 Vincent Farr
 Edward Evans Cooper
 Zech^a Pittman
 Jonathan Brew
 Ephraim Tebbetts
 John Church
 Joseph Evans Jun^r
 Paul Hays
 Micah Emmerson
 Arthur McDaniel
 Joseph Hartford
 Ben^{ja} Evans
 Jacob Allen
 Ben^{ja} Allen
 Thomas Wallingford
 Henry Bickford
 Joseph Jackson
 Ralph Twombly
 Joseph Curtis
 John Perkins
 Joseph Tebbetts Tertius
 Robert Hanson
 Thomas Hanson
 Timothy Hanson
 Daniel Miss Harvey Jr.
 Jabez Garland
 John Varney
 Nath^l Aston
 John Tuttle
 William Jenkins
 James Tuttle
 Reuben Chesley
 William Hill
 Robert Evans
 James Drummond
 Ichabod Hill
 John Jenkins
 Sam^l Hays
 Isaac Hanson Jun^r
 Joseph Hall Junior
 Matthey Peavy
 Thomas Millet
 William Twombly Jun^r
 John Gerrish
 Peter Hays
 Rich^d Plummer
 Sam^l Beard
 William Frost
 Sam^l Walton

John Hopkins
Sam^l Jones
Joseph Rankins
Sam^l Aston
Will^m Hussey
Sam^l Willey Jun^r
DOVER

Joseph Pierce
Joseph Aston
Sam^l Holden
Francis Drew
John Drew
James Hanson
Jonathan Church
Elijah Tuttle
Paul Canney
Joseph Jones
Ben^l Hays
Joseph Recker
Ben^l Aston
John Young
Solomon Clark
John Curry
Maurice Hobbs
Hugh Conner
Thomas Mason
Joshua Perkins
Henry Tebbets Jun^r
William Sledge
Ephraim Tebbets
Sam^l Wentworth
John Bickford
Joseph Bickford
Gershom Downs
Gershom Downs Jun.
Sam^l Canny
Sam^l Canny Jun^r
Joshua Canny
Daniel Horne
John Cromwell
Job Hussey
Joseph Hussey
Richmond Henderson
Noel Cross
Joseph Canny

Thomas Waits
John Mason
John Bampton
Rich^d Hussey
Sam^l Herd
Sam^l Herd Jun^r
John Herd
James Chesley
Matthew James
Benj^m Merrow
Daniel Young
Thomas Nock
Thomas Perkins
Joseph Perkins
Nathaniel Roberts
Thomas Dowens
Benjamin Mason
John Tebbets
Sam^l Tebbets Jun^r
Jeremiah Rollings
Eleazer Wire
John Tebbets
Timothy Carl
Daniel Ham
Lowe Roberts
Philon Yeten
David Daniel
Ezekiel Wolonford
Thomas Tebbets Son John
Howard Henderson
Timothy Roberson
Timothy Roberson Jun.
Jacob Hanson
Nicolas Brock
James Guppy
Paul Roberds
Ebenezer Downs
Joseph Twombly
John Waldron
John Waldron Jun^r
Richard Waldron
Joshua Guppy
Sam^l Cromett
Nicolas Hartford
James Davis, tertius

March 3^d, 1732: Order'd to lye for consideration.

Petition for a grant of land.

To His Excellency Jon^a Belcher Esqr. Gov^t & Command^t in Chief in & over His majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council in Said Province

The Petition of Sundry Persons Inhabitants of Durham, Dover, Exeter & Newington most Humbly *Sheweth*

That whereas your Petitioners are men who have been bro't

up to Husbandry & Farming, but want Lands to exercise their faculty on to their advantage none of them having any share or Propriety in any of the New Townships: they did about six or Seven years agoe Petition the Hon^{ble} the then Lieut. Gov^r & Council for a grant of a Tract of Land to yo^r Petition^{rs} & that they might be Incorporated into a Township—And whereas nothing was then done upon it but yo^r Petition^{rs} prayer neglected they most humbly pray that yo^r Excell^y & the Hon^{ble} the Council in yo^r great wisdom & goodness would be pleas'd to grant yo^r Petition^{rs} a Tract of Land where you shall think proper in this Province Since they have endur'd the brunt & hardships of the Late war have been entirely left out in all former Grants and are all men who are able & willing to settle & Cultivate Land if they had it—and yo^r Petitioners shall as in duty bound ever pray &c

FRANCIS MATHES—in behalf
of the other Petitioners

Jany. 3^d 1753-4.

A List of the Petitioners' names.

Hugh Adams	Jacob Wormwood
Jno Edgerly	Benja Durgan
Joseph Edgerly Junr.	Steph Jenkins
Jno Kent	Francis Drew
Joseph Edgerly	Jno Jenkins
Moses Kilmuin	Joshua Chesley
Zebulon Dam	Joseph Jackson
Jno Drew	Anthony Jones
Benja Daniel	Saml Jones
Steph. Willey	Richd Jones
Thos Footman	Jno Dam Junr
James Langley	Hatevil Leighton
Thos Langley	Benja Bickford
Jno Bickford Junr	Jno Leighton Junr.
Joseph Thomas	James Gurdy
Nathan Kenniston	Richd Denbow
Jno Crimmet	James Smith
Jno Durs	Sampson Doe
Thos Bickford Junr.	Nichs Doe
Solomon Stas	Jno Palmer
Joseph Bickford	Hopely Ayres
Saml Willey	Benja Bennet
Zach Edgerly	Eleazer Bennet
Abra Stevenson	Joshua Crimmet
Christopher Kenniston	Edwd Hilton
Jona Kenniston	Joshua Crocket
Jno Fox	John Crocket
Edwd Wakham	Hezekh March
Thos Shephard	Wm Durgan
Joseph Simons	Wm Durgan Junr.
Joseph Drew	Jno Durgan
Joseph Wormwood	Joseph Durgan
Wm Willey	Jona Durgan

Abn Leannet Junr.	Benja Burditt
Francis Durgan	Saml Adams
Jno Lasky	Steph Burss
Abelnego Leathers	Ezekl Hilton
Jno Doe Jun.	Steph Jenkins Jun.
Jno Barbor	Dani Rogers
Jno Footman	Joseph Smith Jun.
Joseph Foo-man	Jno Lancley
Jno Follet	Charles Hilton
Clemt Sias	Moses Edgerly
Dani Doe	Troworthy Durgan
Benja Doe	Joseph Sias
Joseph Chesley Jun.	Thos Chesley
Solo Davis	Winburn Adams
Alexander Hodgdon	Jno Adams
Jno Daniel	Joseph Kent
Lemuel Bickford	Thos Chesley
Dodlovah Bickford	Job Langley
Wm Shepherd	Caleb Wakeham
Alex Hodgdon Jun	Thos Willey
Jno Hodgdon	James Drisco
Jno Mason	Thos Drew
Joseph Doe	Elijah Drew
Paul Chesley	Miles Randall
Lemuel Chesley	Benja Mathews
Thos Huckins	Thos Laighton
Joseph Stevenson Jun.	Gershoni Matthews
Saml Chesley Jun.	Francis Footman
Theodore Willey	Benja Bennet
Jeremy Pinner	Philip Crimmet

Ordered to be suspended til next Session.

*A List of the training men under Tho^s Millet, Capⁿ of
Dover.*

Sergt Daniel Titcomb	Thomas Cenney Junr
Ser. Thomas Laighton	Oatls Pinkham
Corgl John Clements	Thomas Waits
Corl John Young	Joseph Cramwel
Corl John Bickford	Abraham Nute
Corl John Laighton	John Pearl
Joshua Perkins	Nathaniel Aston
Paul Cenney	Joseph Aston
Ephraim Tebbetts	Thomas Draw Junr
Thomas Ash	Moses Varney
Joshua Cenney	Hatevil Hall
Samuel Holden	James Jackson
Joseph Bickford	Timothy Moses Jun.
Timothy Robinson	John Huckins
John Cramwel	Davi l Daniel
Solomon Perkins	Samuel Chesley
John Perkins	Stephen Willey
Richard Plummer	Anthony Jones
Thomas Cenney	Joseph Daniel

John Daniel
 Henry Bussey
 Eli Demeratt Jun.
 James Clark
 Job Demeratt
 John Ham Jun.
 Daniel Bunker
 Zechariah Bunker
 Henry Tibbitts
 John Field Jun.
 Samuel Starboard
 John Starboard
 John Tuttle
 James Tuttle
 Thomas Tuttle
 Nicholas Tuttle
 Samuel Hays
 Joseph Tibbotts
 Shadrach Hodgdon
 John Giles
 James Loughton
 Trastrum Pinkham
 William Allen
 Joseph Allen
 Paul Nute
 Thomas Pinkham Jr.
 Hatevil Loughton
 John Harvey
 Nathaniel Roberts
 Thomas Roberts

Joseph Dam
 Joseph Hall, Jun.
 Howard Henderson Jun.
 Samuel Roberts
 Ebenezer Tuttle Jun.
 Joseph Hubbard
 Tobias Randol
 Charles Bickford
 Ichabod Tibbitts
 Stephen Hawkins
 Aaron Roberts
 Thomas Ransom
 Amos Bantom
 Isaac Allen
 Clement Ham
 Benjamin Dodge Jun.
 Vincent Torr
 Stephen Pinkham
 James Pinkham Jun.
 Jonathan Daniel
 Jacob Daniel
 Jonathan Horniman
 John Randel
 Joseph Drev
 John Follet
 Solomon Pinkham Jun.
 Robert Wille
 Benjamin Wille
 Clement Harvey

Total 97

July 3rd 21 1740

*A List of y^e Second foot Company of Dover, July the 24.
 1740.*

Searcants John Horn
 Jonathan Young
 Ephorem Ham
 John Tasker

Corporals Ezra Kembel
 Nathn. Young
 John Demeritt

Drummers John Carter)
 John Marden)
 Daniel Plumer
 Job Clement
 Saml Clement
 Saml Dam
 Saml Arley
 John Alley
 John Muckelaroy
 William Whitehouse
 James Withrel
 John Hanson Jun.

William Horn
 Nathl Horn
 Ezekel Wertworth
 Ephorem Wentworth Jun.
 Joseph Connor
 James Chesley
 John Varney
 Nemiah Kembel
 Thomas Hanson
 John Horn Jun.
 John Wablon
 Nathn Varney
 Stephen Varney.
 Elihu Heays
 John Tebits
 Nathn Ham
 Daniel Ham
 Daniel Horn
 Peter Hayes

John Hayes Jun.	Zechariah Edgely
Saml Varney	William Demoret
Thomas Heays	Daniel Harvey
Ezekiah Heays	John Bass II
Mark Gills	William Russell
Ichabod Heays	James Hackens
John Teblats Jun.	Nathl Davis
Jeremiah Teblats	John Fay Jun.
Isaac Twombly	Ralph Hall
Thomas Young	Joseph Perkins
Isaac Young	Benja Hall
Robert Evans Jun.	John Brown
John Evans	Joseph Jackson
Nathl Hanson	Clement Dru
Benjn Evans	Meshaek Dru
Robert Hanson	Elezer Davis
John Cook	Daniel Clement
Henry Backford	Richard Chas. A.
Nathl Garland	Jonth Hanson
William Twombly Jun.	George Heaton
Saml Young	Joseph Hastings
Stephen Oatis	James Young
Isrl Hodgdon Jun.	Jabez Garland
John Hanson	Saml Heard
Timothy Hanson	James Richard
James Kelley	Isaac Horn
Joseph Hanson Jun.	Joseph Ham
Ichabod Comery	Ruben Heays
John James	Joseph Heays
Moses Winger	Saml Hanson
Joseph Hall	Daniel Evans
Richard Scammons	Nathl Hanson Jun.
Jona Church	Ezekiah Cook
Isaac Watson	Elezer Young
Saml Hoge	Benjn Young
Henry Marshal	Joseph Hanson third
Richard Pinkem Jun.	Joseph Esters
Ebenezer Pinkem	Isaac Hanson
James Biber	George H. uson
Maul Hanson	Elisha Esters
John Twombly Jun.	Jonth Chusing Jun.
Benja Allen	Saml Gerrish
Saml Paves	John Winger Jun.
Saml Alley Jun.	Saml Winger
William Hill	John Whighhouse
Saml Williams	Benja Thresher
Jonth Ham	Saml Watson
William Percy	Saml Davis Jun.
Joseph Hix	Saml Tasker
Francis Dru	Thomas Harris
Solomon Emerson	David Dru
William Tasker	Joseph Evans third
Thomas Backford	Solomon Hanson
Ezariah Bailey	Benjn Pinkem
Percy Pionan	Benja Heays
Zechariah Pitman	Job Clement Jun.

A True Coppey pr. Me William Welland Clark

A true Coppey attested by the Clark under oath

JOHN WINGET Left

Total 153.

*This is the List of the Troopers under the Command of Capt^l
Trustram Coffin in Dover, July 1st 29. 1740.*

Corpl Benja Ham	Benja Roberts Jun.
Corpl Jos Records	Eleiah Tuttle
Corpl Jos Thomas	Spensor Wintworth
John Young Jr	John Drew
James Nute Jr	John Heard
Isaac Lebbey	Jonathan Dungen
Paul Gerrish Jr	John Drew Jun.
Saml Heard Jr	Richard Jones
Ralph Twombly	Joshua Stagpole
Benja Henson Jr	Daniell Rogers
Dudley Watson	Jonathan Watson
Benja Wadsworth Jun.	Dedebor Ham
John Tebberts Jun.	Ambros Bampton
Richard Waldron	Daniell Horne Jun.
Ebenezer Nock	Jos. Drew
William Styles	Nathaniel Rendell Jun.
William Horne Jun.	Jonathan Henson
Thos Teller Jun.	Stephen Jenkins Jun.
Moses Stevens	Benja Jackson
Shedreeh Walton	Samuell Stagpole

STEPHEN ROBERTS Clark

Petition against a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General
Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majes-
tys Province of New Hamp^r in New England Together with
The Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representa-
tives in general Assembly Conveaned

Wee your Humb^l Petitioners without a due Consideration
having heretofore Signed a Petition carried into the general
Court in order to be set off a Parish by our selves which Peti-
tion if Granted Wee find will be greatly to our disadvantage
and very hurtful to ourselves and Families for the time to come

first Because that after a due Consideration wee find that
our part that have Petitioned are but few in number and
many of us under such poor Circumstances that wee apprehend
that at present we are in no wise able to Support our-
selves & Families and to pay what we shall be obliged to do in
order to the settling & maintaining an Orthodox Minister

amongst us. Secondly Because that whenever it may be thought there may be another Parrish the meeting house ought to be set up in the Center of the Parish and not y^e Parrish to be Established in manner & form as Petition^d for. The meeting house now at Madbury standing almost home to Durham line and will by no means accomodate Many of us Neither many other out settlers who dont live within the Parrish Petition^d for. Wherefore we your humb^le Petitioners beg that your Excellency & Honours would in your great wisdom and Goodness take this affair into your wise Consideration and put an end to the whole proceeding thereof all which Wee your Hum^le Petitioners in duty Bound shall ever pray

Dover May y^e 8th 1744.

Henry Blackford
John Evans
Jonathan Hanson
Robert Evans

Isaac Twombly
Joseph Evans
Joseph Twombly
Stephen Pinkham
Abraham Clark.

Petition for leave to have a Lottery.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire—The Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province In General Assembly Conven'd the 2^d Day of January 1760

The Humble Petition of John Gage Esq^r Howard Henderson & Dudley Watson Gentlemen all of Dover in said Province as Committee of said Town for this purpose Shews

That the said Town by divers ways & means is as your Petitioners apprehend more burthened with Charges of One kind or other than any other in the Province in Proportion to the Polls & Estates Subjected to Discharge them Among which the Bridges maintained at the Public Expense is not Inconsiderable But especially the well known & now much us'd Bridge over Cochecho River (which is gone much to Decay) is a Great & Standing Expende—That it is now necessary the said Bridge should be Rebuilt for which a considerable sum of Money will be wanting the Levying of which in the Common Way will be too Grievous to be sustained at Present notwithstanding the Urgency of the Demand

That as there are at Present many Examples of Raising money for Public uses by way of Lottery that the money Risk'd by Individuals who will where opportunity Favours be adventurers may be of General advantage the said Town have upon Consultation Judg'd they might make a Good use of this

way for the End aforesaid and directed your Petitioners to apply for liberty accordingly—And as this liberty is a matter of mere grace and favor and not of Justice and right your Petitioners beg leave Humbly to suggest that Considering it in that view the Town of Dover seems to be a proper Subject for that favour not only in Regard of the Burthen aforesaid but also of the Principal Share it has Sustained of all the Calamities Afflictions Troubles & Burthens with which the Province in General has been Concerned from the Beginning—Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that they may have the Liberty afores^d Granted to said Town & leave to Bring in a Bill accordingly and they will as in duty bound ever pray &c

JOHN GAGE
HOW^d HENDERSON } Committee

In Council Jan'y 4th 1760
read & ordered to be send
down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Sec'y.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Jan 4, 1760.
New Hamps } This Petition being read

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted and that y^e petitioners Have Liberty to Bring In a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk.

In Council Jan'y 5th 1760
read & Concurr^d

Theodore Atkinson Sec'y.

Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of Dover for a Bridge to cross Bellamy's Bank.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened, Oct. 12th 1756

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Dover in said Province Shews That there is a Public High Way laid out in Dover aforesaid from the Road that leads from Cochecho thro' Littleworth so called to Barrington to the Main Road that goes thro Madbury which Highway crosses Bellamy's Bank Freshet or Brook A little above Capt. Paul Gerrishes saw mill over which Freshet or Brook there is no Bridge for want whereof at certain times there is no Passing & thereby the Good Ends proposed in laying out Said way are in a Great Measure Frustrated and is also a standing Grievance to the Owners of the Contiguous Lands by Passengers throwing

Down the Fences for Convenient Passage, when they cannot pass said Freshet which would be prevented by a Bridge.

That the Way aforesaid is Really useful & Necessary which was the Reason why it was laid out and tho' this matter has been Represented to the Town and the Necessity of having a Bridge there urged to make said Way Serviceable without being Injurious to Particular Persons and the Town Requested to Build it at their General Expence Yet they Cannot be Prevail'd upon to do it.

That Every Town is by Law Obligated to Provide for and Keep in Repair all Roads or High Ways Passing thro' them and there is the same Reason that they should Build Bridges where they are Necessary or the High Ways leading to Such Places would be useless tho' as the Law Relating to the Laying out High Ways is Silent as to this matter & it is a Case omitted your Petitioners are Necessitated to make this application.

Wherefore they Humbly Pray the Premises may be Considered and the Said Town of Dover Enjoined to Build a Convenient Bridge at the Place aforesaid to Render said Way useful or Provide Such other Relief herein as in your Great Wisdom & Goodness you shall Judge proper and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

Eli Demeret
 Paul Gerrish
 John Tasker
 Thos Davis
 Paul Pinkham
 Job Demeret
 John Roberts
 Samuel Roberts
 Solomon Demeret
 Ebenezer Tasker
 Isaac Buzzell
 Joseph Jackson
 John Tasker Junr.
 Ebenr Demerit
 Thomas Bickford
 John Bickford
 his
 Tristram P. Pinkham
 mark
 John Molony
 Daniel Young
 Samuel Daniels
 Joseph Daniels
 William Demerit
 Joseph Lebbey
 William Gleden
 James Davis
 Samuel Young
 Isaac Twombly

James Young
 Jonathan Evens
 John Kielle
 John Hanson
 Ebenezer Varney Junier
 Israel Hodgdon
 Samuel Davis
 Thomas Davis Junr.
 Moses Waymoth
 Joseph Hicks
 James Jackson Junr.
 John Huckins
 John Huckins Junr.
 Samuel Chase
 Anthony Jones
 Richard Jones
 James Jackson
 John Demeret Junr.
 Zackriah Pitman
 Coner Pitman
 John Demerit
 Samuel Drew
 Daniel Meader
 Benja Evens
 Zackriah Boody
 Nathiel Tebbets
 Daniel Evens
 Jonathan Hanson
 Daniel Cook

Silas Hanson
 Richard Cook
 John Cook
 Hezekiah Cook
 Joseph Young
 his
 Nath \bowtie Hanson
 mark
 Stephen Hanson
 James Hanson
 Joseph Evens
 Benjamin Evans
 Me-hack Drew

Ichabod Caney
 Samuel Davis
 Joseph Twombly
 Paul Twombly
 John Buzzell
 John Wingett
 Timothy Perkins
 his
 Will \bowtie Buzzel
 mark
 Thomas Evens
 Benjamin Russell.

Prov. N.) In Council October 13th 1756

Hamps) read & ordered to be sent to the Hon^{ble} Assembly
 Theo Atkinson Secy.

Province)
 of New) In the house of Representatives Octob 14th 1756.
 Hamph) The within Petition having been read

Ordered That the Petitioners be heard thereon the fourth day of the Sitting of the General Assembly next after the first Day of Novem^r Next Ensuing & that the Petitioners at their own Cost & Charged cause the Selectmen of Dover in said Province to be serv'd with a Copy of s^d Petition & this order of Court thereon to appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem die
 read & Concurr'd

Theo. Atkinson Sec.

Petition in relation to being set off in a separate county.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire — To the Honourable his Majesties Council and to the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives in General Court convened this 11th Day of March 1768

We the Subscribers being Agents legally appointed by the several Towns hereafter mentioned beg leave to present our humble Petition unto this Hon^{ble} Court, and in terms of the utmost Deference & respect to shew forth—that as your Excellency and Honours are about Dividing this Province into Separate & distinct Counties your Petitioners in their s^d Capacity Humbly Hope that as the s^d Towns have long since been incorporated and are now become very populous & may reasonably be supposed still more to increase and as some of them have been indulged with certain Priviledges & Franchises & as the adjacent Towns are also settling & greatly improving: Your Excellency and Honours will condescend to confirm a Vote of this Hon^{ble} Court passed at their last Fall sitting for Dividing

this Province into three Counties so far as said vote relates to these Towns with regard to the boundary Lines only And your Petitioners humbly pray y^r Excellency and Honours would indulge them with a Hearing on this important Subject when we presume to Hope we shall offer to this Hon^{ble} Court such Reasons as they may Judge sufficient to induce them to grant us the Prayer of our Petition & to set off the s^t Towns into a distinct & Seperate County with such Towns as were then annexed in the aforesaid vote And your Petitioners as in Duty bound in their said Capacity shall ever pray

John Gage } For
Otis Baker } Dover

Tho^s Wallingford }
Jn^r Wentworth } Somersworth

Daniel Rogers }
Volantine Mathes } Durham
Jeremi^h Burnum }
John Smith }

John Plumer } Rochester
John McDuffee }
Paul Hayes }
Samuel Brewster } Barrington

Petition relating to a Bridge.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esquire Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly convened the 13th day of November 1770

The humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dover in said Province Shews

That the Inhabitants of said Town were divided in sentiment about the place of building a new Bridge over the Cocheco River at the Falls and tho^t there was a Vote of the Town for placing it below the Falls your Petitioners apprehend the Vote would not have been pass'd had the meeting been general (many persons being then absent in the Woods) or cou'd they have obtained a Second fair meeting so that those who were for having the Bridge placed below the Falls proceeding on the authority of said Vote have built a Bridge below and the Place where the old Bridge stood being on an ancient Highway and most convenient for Travellers the Inhabitants who were for having the Bridge there supposed the Town to be under a necessity of building one there Also which was done in the Course of the last Summer & there are now two Bridges at said Falls which your Petitioners apprehend to be needless.

That the lower Bridge is not so convenient for Travellers nor so well approved of by them nor can the Town dispense with the Duty of maintaining a Bridge above where there has been one for near one hundred years past and therefore a Vote for

changing or altering and placing a new Bridge so far out of the way or at such a Distance from the old place was utterly illegal and had it been ever so fairly obtained cou'd not have been valid without a greater authority than such a Vote.

Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray that the whole proceeding in this Case may be examined by the legislative Authority and the following Questions resolved viz whether the Town had a right by their Vote to change the place of building a Bridge so as to be exempted from building and maintaining one where it used to be—Whether their proceedings have been fair and legal upon supposition they had a right to determine the matter by the agreement of the Town. Whether the Bridge below or that above will be of the most general Service & best answer the public Good. Whether there is any necessity of maintaining both said Bridges and if not which the Town shall be at the expense of building & maintaining for the future with such other matters and things as in your great Wisdom & goodness you shall find incidental and necessary to be determined in order to the regular proceeding of said Town in making their Rates which is not yet done and for the settling peace & good order in said Town and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Howd Henderson
Joseph Clements
Timothy Clements
John Cenney
Timo Robinson Jr
Jno Waldron Jr
Silas Hanson
John Waldron
Nehm Kimball
Thomas Hanson
James Varney
Thos Hanson Jr.
Ephm Kimball
William Hussey
William
John Kimbal
Paul Hussey
Daniel Varney
Joa Varney Jr
Tobias Varney
Stepheu Varney
Ephm Wentworth
Spencer Wentworth
Reuben Wentworth
John Whitthouse
Samuel Ambros
Tom Heard
John Heard
Moses Roberts
Aaron Roberts

Joseph Roberts
Stephn Varney Jr
John Harford
Nathan Varney
Moses Horn
John Horn
Wm Robinson
John Pinkham
James Chesley
Paul Kimbal
William
Tobias Kimbal
John Hoyt
Joshua Varney
Jacob Sawyer
Jethro Heard
John Horn
Benja Horn
Zacheus Purinton
Nathaniel Horn
Paul Welland
Elijah Coffin
Paul Varney
Daniel Heard
Thomas Varney
Benja Hanson Jr.
Saml Varney Jr.
Solomon Varney
Jedediah Varney
John Horn Jun

Isaac Horn
 Timo Robinson
 Eljah Tuttle
 James Tuttle
 William Horn
 Elijah Varney
 Samuel Ricker
 Moses Rand
 Ebenezer Horn
 Thomas Goudy
 Joseph Peasley
 Jeremiah Tibbets
 George Young
 Timo Hussey
 Elisha Purinton
 Joseph Waldron
 Nicolas Hartford
 David Rand
 Wilim Waldron
 Amos Varney
 Stephen Horn
 George Horn
 William Gage
 Pinneers Ricker

Jonathan Door
 Daniel
 Thos Shannon
 John Gage 3d
 Jno Varney Jun.
 Ichabod Varney
 Isaac Horn Jun.
 John Varney
 Ebenezer Varney
 Timothy Varney
 Richd Waldron
 Richd Kimbal
 Mordecai Varney
 John
 Josiah Wille
 Thomas Horn
 Samuel Mills
 Daniel Heard
 John Varney
 Ezra Kimbal
 Samuel
 Ephm Tibbets
 Pusler Downs

In Council Dec. 14, 1770

The enclosed Petition read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Geo King D. Sec.

Province of }
 New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Dec. 14th 1770.

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on Wednesday the second day of Jan'y next if the General Assembly be then sitting and if not then on the third Day of their sitting next after and that they serve the Selectmen of Dover with a Copy of this Petition and order of Court that they may shew cause why the Prayer thereof should not be granted

M. Weare Cl.

In Council Dec 15, 1770

Read and concurr'd

Geo. King D. Sec.

Copy of so much as is legible examined by

Geo King Dep. Dec.

Province of }
 New Hamp. } In the House of Representatives Jan'y 16, 1771

The within Petition being Considered. It appearing that there was a Town Vote for Building the lower Bridge it is tho't to be just that the Charge thereof should be paid by the whole Town—But it appearing that the upper Bridge is not usefull for the Publick Wherefore

Voted that the said upper Bridge shall hereafter be maintained at the charge & Expence of said Town and that the Petitioners have Leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

M. Weare Cler.

In Council Jan 17, 1771.

Read & concurr'd

Geo King D. Sec

Another Petition relating to Bridges.

Province of }
 New Hamp }

To his Excellency the Governor the Honorable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives of s^t Province May it please

Whereas by mis-understanding & a party Spirit prevailing among the Inhabitants of Dover in said Province they have built two Bridges over the River one above the other below the Cochecho falls in Dover (so called) the one by vote of the Town the other by your Petitioners & the dispute running so high which shoud be the Kings and Countrys Bridge each Party strenuously contending for their own they having the Town Vote in their favor and we Antiquity & conveniency on ours to end or determine which we petitioned your Excellency and Honors to say which shall be the established Bridge for the use of his Majesty's Subjects which you were pleased to determine in our favor which we gratefully acknowledge and return our sincere acknowledgements for said favor but by your act or determination you enabled the Selectmen of Dover to assess the Polls and Estates in said Dover as for other Town charges to pay the charge of the lower Bridge which has been done and paid and no provision is made by said act or other-ways for payment of the established Bridge. We petitioned the Selectmen but they deny'd then we petitioned two Justices unus Quorum to call a Town meeting of the Inhabitants of Dover to see if they would Vote to pay for the building the established Bridge a Meeting was called by said Justices and the Town voted in the negative. Therefore we pray you will direct & enable the Selectmen of Dover to assess the Polls and Estates in the same as for other Town Charges for payment of said upper Bridge above the falls on their receiving a true and reasonable account of the charge of the same and we as in duty bound shall ever pray. Dover 23^d May 1773 Signed by us Inhabitants of said Dover.

John Heard
 Paul Varney
 William Fos-
 Daniel Heard
 Timothy Varney
 Silas Hanson
 Jno Wadron
 John Kimbal
 Ephm Kimbal
 John Withou-e
 Timothy Roberson Jr.
 Ebenezer Horn
 Nathaniel Horn
 Samuel Ambros

Daniel Heard Jun.
 John Hayes
 Samuel Hurd
 John Ham
 John Varney
 Richard Waldron
 Ezra Kimbal
 John Horn
 Thos Hanson
 John Waldron
 Joseph Roberts
 Stephen Hussey
 Timothy Hussey
 Jno Varney Jr.

Jediah Varney
 Nathan Varney
 Moses Read
 Ephraim Wentworth
 Reuben Wentworth
 Jonas Goudy
 Elisha Purinton
 Joshua Varney
 Thomas Varney
 Paul Welland
 Stephen Varney
 Jno Conner
 Jethro Heard
 John Waldron 3d
 Paul Hussey
 John Barford
 Ben Hanson Junr.
 James Chesley
 Joseph Waliron

Thos Hanson Junr.
 Nehm Kimbal
 Paul Kimball
 Joseph Peaslee
 Isaac Horne
 Isaac Horn Junr.
 William Horn
 Timo Robinson
 Elijah Tuttel
 James Varney
 Ichabod Varney
 Elijah Varney
 Mordcaai Varney
 Moses Roberts
 Timothy Clemens
 John Plukhau
 James Tuttle
 Samuel Tuttel

In Council May 27, 1772.

This Petition was read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Geo. King Dep. Sec^y

Province of)
 New Hamp.) In the House of Representatives May 27th 1772

Voted that the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on the 5th day of June next and that they serve the Selectmen of Dover with a Copy of this Petition and order thereon but if the General Assembly be not then sitting then on the third day of their sitting next afterwards

William Parker

In Council eodem die

Geo King D. Secy.

Read and concurd

Copy examined by

Geo King Dep^y Sec^y

Petition relating to removal of Rocks from Salmon Falls river.

State of }
 New Hamp- }
 shire. }

To the Honorable the Council and House of Representatives of said State.

The Subscribers hereto most humbly Shew That for many years past a considerable Trade as beneficial to the Community as to Individuals hath been carried on by the people living on what is called Salmon fall River which Trade has ever been attended with the greatest Inconveniences on account of many very large pointed Rocks which lay scattered in the Bed of said River for near a Mile below what is called Quamphe-

gan Landing—That all attempts to raise Money by Subscription or otherways for the purpose of removing said Rocks have hitherto proved unsuccessful the charge of that Business having been deemed too heavy to be borne by the few when the many were as closely interested—That to the obstructions aforesaid your Petitioners conceive it is in part owing that the Trade of said River hath lately very much declined but which they hope will soon revive on their removal.

Your petitioners are anxious as well for the good of the Community as for their own private Emolument, to have the said Rocks removed, and therefore in a Design so benevolent and useful Do pray the aid and Interposition of your Honors so far only as to enable them to raise by a Lottery about five hundred pounds which sum with what *they* can furnish in Labour and material they apprehend will be sufficient to effect the above purpose—And as in duty bound your Petitioners will ever pray &c

Feb. 23^d 1779

Jacob Shorcy
 Elip Russell
 Jedediah Goodwin
 Samuel Brackett
 James Brackett
 James Roberts
 Humphrey Chadbourne
 Stephen Hodsden
 S. Hill
 Jacob Lord Jr.
 Gilbert Warren
 Aaron Stackpole
 Humph. Chadbourne 3d
 Ebenezer Lord
 Joshua Grant
 John Hamilton
 Jno Stanley Jr
 Samuel Ricker
 Isaac Morrill
 Joseph Fogg
 Paul Lord
 Nathan Lord Junr.
 Ichabod Goodwin Jr.
 Dominicus Goodwin
 Jona C. Chadbourne
 Joseph Pray Jr.
 Samuel Butler
 Nathaniel ———?
 Jonathan Tebbets
 Thomas Butler
 Clark Garrish
 Robt Twombly
 Moses Carr
 Benja Warren
 John Roberts

Zacheus Varney
 Ebenezer Ricker
 John Tebbets
 Jacob Quimby
 Benja Quimby
 William Chadwick
 Daniel Pike
 Robert Rogers
 Daul Woods
 John Tucker
 Alexander Gerrish
 John Haggens
 Wm Rogers
 Joseph Prime
 Jona Hamilton Jr.
 Nathan Lord
 Paul Haggens
 William Pearnay
 P. C. Hart?
 J. Brackett
 Thomas Sheafe
 Joseph Simes
 Rich Champney
 Saml Sherburne
 Jeremiah Libley
 Mark Nelson
 John Noble
 Jonathan Varney
 John Cutts
 George Dame
 Jeremiah Hill
 Saml Cutts
 Tobias Walker
 Stephen Paul
 I. Rollins

Thos W^m Waldron
Geo Waldron

Thomas Shannon

DORCHESTER.

Petition for extension of time to make their settlement.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in Council

The Petition of John House of Hanover in the County of Grafton in the Province aforesaid Esqr. in behalf of Himself & the Proprietors of the Township of Dorchester in the Said County of Grafton unto your Excellency & the Hon^{ble} Council humbly *Shews*

That by Reason of the many Difficulties attending the Settlement of New Townships y^r Petitioners have not been able to perform the Setling Duties required by Charter, That there are Several families now settled there and more soon to remove that they have cutt a Road & laid out most of the Township, and are in hopes of Performing the Setling Duties if your Excell^y & Honours will indulge them with an extension of the Time for making their Settlement. Wherefore your Petitioners humbly prays y^r Excellency & Honours Favours to them in granting them such further Time for Setling as in your wisdom you may think proper And your Petitioners beg Leave to assure y^r Excell^y & Honours that they will be Solicitously attentive to fulfill their Duties required by the Charter of s^d Township and as in Duty bound y^r Petitioners will ever pray

JOHN HOUSE.

Portsmouth Dec. 3^d 1771.

Petition for a new Charter.

[New Charter was granted May 1, 1772. Ed.]

Province }
of New Hamp }

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief of said Province in Council—

The Memorial of John House And his Associates humbly sheweth.

That your Memorialists having lately prefer'd a petition for an Extension of the Charter of the Township of Dorchester

now under forfeiture which Extension they since find will be attended with insuperable Difficultys, as many of the late proprietors will neither prosecute their Settlements nor be persuaded to pay their necessary Taxes.

Your Memorialists are now desirous of withdrawing the said Petition & would pray y^e Excellency & Honours that they may be favor'd with a new Charter of said Township engaging to admit with them all Such of the late proprietors as will appear to do the necessary Dutys And immediately to bring into said Township a Number of good Settlers—to clear the Road thro' the Same leading to the College & comply with every other Condition or Reservation which your Excellency & Honors may seem meet to direct—and your Memorialists as in duty bound shall ever pray—

JOHN HOUSE For himself &
his associates

Portsmouth 28th april 1772.

DUBLIN.

[Originally called Monadnock, No. 3, was granted November 3, 1749. ED.]

Petition to be incorporated into a Township.

Province of)
New Hampshire }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire aforesaid & Vice admiral of the same. In Council.

The Petition of Josiah Willard Jr agent for and in behalf of the Inhabitants and Settlers of a Tract of Land in said Province commonly called & known by the name of Dublin (or Monadnock No. 3) Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioner is Impowered and authorized to inform your Excellency that the Said Dublin is rated among the Towns and Parishes in this Province for the prov^{ce} Tax and that the said place is not legally qualified to raise and collect the said Taxes whereby they may be construed delinquents if the same should be omitted: He also begs leave to suggest to your Excellency that the said Dublin is presumed to be sufficiently inhabited and convenient for Incorporation He therefore humbly Prays in behalf of his Constituents as afores^d. That they may be erected and Incorporated into a Township and that they

may be invested with the privileges and powers usually enjoyed by Towns in this Province. The power given your pet^r with the several signers, being herewith presented, and your petitioner in his said Capacity will ever pray &c.

JOSIAH WILLARD Jr.

Portsmⁿ 25th March 1771.

DUNBARTON.

[This town was formerly called Starks-Town, and was incorporated 10 August, 1765. Ed.]

Petition of Capt. Caleb Page of Starkstown.

Prov of)
N. Hamp.)

To his Excellency B. W. Esq. Govern^r & Command^r in Chief^e in and over s^t Province & to his Maj^{ty} Council & General Assembly.

Humbly sheweth Caleb Page in behalf of himself & other the Inhabitants of a Place called Starks Town in this Province that by order of the General assembly he was Directed by a particular Warrant from the Treasurer of the Prov^{ce} to assess a Certain Sum from the Petitioners as Inhabitants of Starks Town afores^d and also the Petitioner received at the same Time one other Precept Directed to the Select Men of Starks Town for the assessing & Collecting the Pr^o Tax for the Curr^t year. The Warr^t Directed to your Petitioner for arrears of the Pr^o Tax for former years in these affairs your Petitioner begs Leave to Inform your Excellency & Hon^{rs} that the Inhabitants are by no means able to Pay such sums & that if their ability was equal to the Demand they are in no Capacity to assess the Inhabitants as they are not incorporated nor Entitled in any way to Town Priviledges therefore Prays to be admitted to explain before your Excellency & Hon^{rs} the Precise Circumstances & Condition of the s^t Inhabitants & your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

CALEB PAGE.

Province of) In the house of Representatives Dec^r 7th 1763
New Hampshire) This Petition being read

Voted That Col^l Sam^l Barr & Col^l John Goffe Esq^{rs} be & they are hereby appointed to take an acct^t of all the Polls and Rateable Estate In said Town & make Report to the Gen^l Assembly as soon as may be under oath

A. Clarkson Clerk.

Province of } In Council December 7th 1763
 New Hamps. } Read & Concurr'd

T. Atkinson Jun. Secy.

Province of }
 New Hamps. } In the house of Representatives May 4th 1764

The Committee appointed to take an Inventory of Starks town made their Report yesterday which Report is on file and

Voted That the petition be Dismissed

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council May 5th 1764
 read & Concurr'd

T. Atkinson Jun. Secy

Petition in relation to a school lot.

Province of }
 New Hamp. }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain general governor & commander in chief in & over his Majestys province of New Hampshire and the honourable his majestys council & house of Representatives for said Province. The petition of James Stinson of Dunbarton in said provincē most humbly Sheweth that the Inhabitants of said Dunbarton at a legal meeting for that purpose on the 25th day of October 1773 voted that this petitioner should have the school lot in said town which is the lot number twelve in the fourth range in exchange for fifty acres of the easterly end of the lot number eleven in the third range and the half off the easterly end of the lot number twelve in the same range. Wherefore as it is thought said exchange would accommodate the School in said town as well as the petitioner -- The petitioner therefore prays your Excellency & Honours by a resolve or act of Assembly for that purpose would confirm said town vote and your petitioner as in Duty bound shall pray &c

SAM. LIVERMORE, for the petitioner.

January 11th 1774.

In Council Jan^y 18, 1774

Read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly
 Geo King D. Secy.

Province of }
 New Hampshire } In the House of Represent. Jan^y 18 1774

Voted that the Prayer of this Petition be granted & that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Resolve accordingly

William Parker Cler assembly

In Council eodem die
 Read and concur'd

Geo King D. Secy.

At a Leaugel Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Dunbarton assembled October ye 25th 1773 And Voted that James Stinson Should

have the School Lot in said town which is the Lot N^o twelve in the fourth Range in Exchange for fifty acres off the Easterly end of the Lot N^o Eleven third Range and the half off said Easterly End of N^o twelve in said Range

A true Coppy Attest

W^m Stark P. C.

Resolve to exchange the School Lot in Dunbarton.

Province of)
New Hamp.) In the House of Representatives Jan^y 20th 1774

Upon reading the Petition of James Stinson of Dunbarton in this Province praying that the said Town of Dunbarton might be Impowered to carry into Execution a certain vote of said Town viz: that he the said James Stinson should have the School Lot which is the Lot Number Twelve in the fourth Range of Lots in said Town in Exchange for Fifty Acres off the Easterly end of the Lot Number Eleven in the third Range and the half off the Easterly end of the Lot Number Twelve in said third Range. All which having been heard and considered and it appearing that said Exchange will be for the Advantage of both Parties—Therefore it is Resolved & Voted That upon the said James Stinsons making and executing to the Selectmen for the use of the Town of Dunbarton aforesaid a good and valid Deed of the aforesaid Fifty acres off the East end of the Lot Number Eleven in the third Range and the half of the Lot Num^r Twelve in said third Range for the uses and purpose of supporting a school in said Dunbarton forever. That then the said Town of Dunbarton be and hereby are Impowered to appoint some Person or Persons to make and Execute to him the said James Stinson his heirs and assigns forever a Good & Valid Deed of the aforesaid Lot Number Twelve in the Fourth Range which deed shall be esteemed good & authentic to all Intents and purposes

J. Wentworth, Speaker.

In Council Jan^y 25. 1774

Read and concurd

Geo King D. Sec^y

Consented

J. WENTWORTH

Petition of Caleb Page relating to school Lot.

Province of)
New Hamp)

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Governor in chief in & over said Province The Honourable Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened. May 11th 1774

The Humble Petition of Caleb Page of Dunbarton in the County of Hillsborough Gentleman in behalf of himself and a number of the Inhabitants & Freeholders of said Dunbarton Sheweth That when the Lands in said Town were allotted, Lot number nine in the third Range was laid out for the use of the School forever. Afterwards on the Tenth Day of June 1761 the Proprietors of said Dunbarton voted to exchange the

Schoot Lot with William Stark of said Dunbarton if he would purchase Lot number twelve in the fourth Range for the use of the School. Which Lot number twelve the said Stark afterwards purchased for his own use, but hath never conveyed the same for the use of the school according to the Condition of said Vote. Afterwards at a suppos'd Meeting of the Inhabitants of Dunbarton afores^d (which meeting was called within Six Days after the Warrant therefor issued and the same Warrant put up in a very private Place) it was voted by a few of the Inhabitants that James Stinson of said Dunbarton should have the Lot Number Twelve called the School Lot in Exchange for fifty acres off the Easterly End of Lot Number Eleven in the third Range and the half of said Easterly End of Lot Number Twelve in the same Range. In Consequence of which Vote obtained in an unfair and private manner The said Stinson petitioned your Excellency and Honors setting forth the purport of the same vote and that an Exchange of said Lots would be a mutual Benefit. Wherefore your Excellency and Honors Resolved that upon the said Stinson's making and Executing to the Selectmen for the use of the Town of Dunbarton afores^d a Deed of the afores^d fifty acres of the easterly End of the Lot Number Eleven in the third Range and half of Lot Number Twelve in the same Range for the use and support of a school in said Dunbarton forever, that then the Town afores^d should be empowered to appoint some person or Persons to make to said Stinson his Heirs and Assigns forever a good and valid Deed of the said Lot Number Twelve in the fourth Range. Since which said Resolve the Inhabitants of said Town have at two legal Meetings voted not to exchange said Lot N^o 12 as they apprehend they have no legal Title to the same but that the Lot number nine in the third Range remain the School Lot in said Town as it was laid originally for that purpose and that if they were Owners of the Lot Number twelve in the third Range called the School Lot would not exchange the same because it is much better situated and of double the Value of the Land proposed to be given by said Stinson in exchange. But as every Method is and hath been taken to persuade and terrify the People of said Dunbarton to vote in exchange of said Lot agreeable to said Resolve whereby the Peace of the Town hath been much disturbed and if the Inhabitants should make a Deed thereof to said Stinson they must necessarily expose themselves to a suit. Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays that the same Resolve may be made null and void that an order may be passed hereon to stop any further Proceedings upon the same Resolve untill your Excellency's and Honors final order herein and your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray &c.

CALEB PAGE.

Province of) In Council May 12th 1774
 New Hamp) This Petition was read & ordered to be sent down to the
 Hon^{ble} Assembly
 Geo King D. Sec^y

Province of) In the House of Representatives May 12th 1774
 New Hamp) The foregoing Petition being Read.

Voted That the Petitioner be heard on this Petition on the Second Day of the Sitting of the General Assembly next after the tenth day of June next and that the Petitioner Serve the Selectmen of Dunbarton and James Stinson named in this Petition with a Copy of this Petition and Order that they may have Opportunity to Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition Should not be Granted, and further Voted That all Proceedings on the Resolve mentioned in this Petition be stayed in the mean time.

M. Weare Cl^k

In Council May 13th 1774.
 Read & concurd
 Geo King D Sec^y.

DUNSTABLE.

[This town was granted and settled under the authority of Massachusetts and remained under that Government until the divisional line between New Hampshire and Massachusetts was established in 1741. The original grant embraced a large tract of territory, including Dunstable in Massachusetts, parts of the towns of Tyngsborough, Ms., Hollis, Hudson, Litchfield and Merrimack in New Hampshire. The name of the town was changed to Nashua by an act of the Legislature, which passed 8 December, 1836. The date of its incorporation by New Hampshire is 1 April, 1746. Ed.]

Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of Pine Hill, Dunstable.

Province of)
 New Hamp)

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Westerly part of Dunstable called Pine Hill, Have Bought the Several Places or Farms that we now Possess. Since the Said Inhabitanice Petitioned His Exc^y &c to be annexed to Holles and the Several Persons we Bought of Sign'd said Petition, which Petition we humbly pray may be granted (as we expected it would be) when we purchased our Farms

Dunstable Nov. y^e 22^d 1763

JOSEPH TAYLOR
 JAMES HILL
 JAMES TAYLOR
 ABRH^m KEYZER

Extract from the Votes of a town meeting in Dunstable.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hamp^r Regularly Assembled on monday ye 5th of December 1763

An extract from the Vote of said meeting. Whereas John Willoughby Benj^r Parker, Elnathan Blood amos Phillips Jonathan Hubbard Gershom Hubbard & Daniel more Complain that they have no Benefit of the money they pay for Preaching in this Town by Reason of the Distance they live from the meeting House Therefore Voted that they be released from Paying any money that shall be raised for Preaching in this Town for Three years from this day for their polls & Estates if they continue to own th^r Real Estate where they now live Except the Town should move the meeting house to the Center of travel & Provided they attend M^r Emersons ministry at Holles during said Term

Copy from Dunstable Record,

JONATHAN LUND Town Clerk

Exam^d &c

Dunstable Dec. 6 1763.

Petition of inhabitants of West Parish of Dunstable for a garrison and men.

Province of }
New Hamps. }

Dunstable June 18th 1744.

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of the West Parish in the District of Dunstable do hereby authorize & desire M^r James Stewart in our Names and Behalf to make proper application to the Governmant of New Hampshire Setting forth our being Situated on the Frontier and Exposed to the Enemy and the Necessity we are in of a Guard & pray for a Sutable & Seasonable Relief thare Viz: at meeting of the Inhabitanice of the west in Dunstable Regularly assembled and Voted & chose Samuel Cumings moderator. Voted & chose James Stewart to Represent the parish at New Hampshire

Voted to Request six garrisons and five and twenty soldiers.

Capt. Peter Powrs
Lieut Benj^r Farley
Ens. Jerathmiel Comings
Samuel Comings
Jo-hua Wight
James ———?
Peter ———?
Stephen Harris
Stephen Hasaltine
David Nevens
Samuel Farley
James Stewart
Jonathan Danford
Josiah Brown
John Brown
Nathaniel Blood
Samuel Parker
Benj^r Blanchard
Benj^r Blanchard Jun.
Nichlas French
Jonathan Lougey
Benj^r Parker
Amos Phillips

Josiah Hobard
Will^m Hartwell
Thomas Peck
Will^m Colburn
Thomas Neuens
Daniel Wooster
John Boyntn Jun^r
Henery Bonton
Will^m Blanchard
Zerubable Kemp
Will^m Adams
John Phelps
Elathen Blood
Josiah Blood
Joseph Chesley
Stephen Amos
Moses Procter
Joseph McDaniels
James McDaniel
———? McDaniels
Jonathan Melnan
Enoch Hunt
Daniel Emerson

Petition for protection against Indians.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. General and Governor in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England—The Honourable the Council & House of Representatives in General Court convened.

The Memorial and Petition of James Stuart in the Name and behalf of the Inhabitants of the West Parish and District of Dunstable in the said Province Humbly Sheweth the said Parish has been Settled by his Majesties Subjects about fourteen years and a Gospell Minister ordained above a year that the Settlers had an Eye at enlarging his Majesties Dominions by going into the Wilderness as well as at their own Interest that many Thousand of pounds has been spent in clearing and cultivating the Land there and some thousands more in building houses Barns & fences the breaking up of which Settlement will not only ruin the Memorialists but greatly deserve his majesties Interest by encouraging his Enemies to encroach on his deserted Settlements and be also hurtfull to the Province by contracting its borders and drawing the war nearer the Capital

That it was by a long and Importunate Intercession of this Province (and not of the Memorialists seeking) that they are cast under the immediate care of this Government which they conceive gives them so much the better right to its protection that as war is already declared against France and a Rupture with the Indians hourly expected your Memorialist unless they have speedy help will be soon obliged to forsake their Settlements how Discervicable soever It May be to the Crown Dishonourable to the Government hurtfull to the Province and ruinous to themselves

Wherefore your Memorialists Most humbly supplicate your Exelency the Honourable Council & House of Representatives to take the Premises into your wise & mature consideration and to grant them such Seasonable Relief as May Enable them to Subsist in the War & secure against the Ravage & Devastations of a blood thirsty & Merciless Enemy and your Memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

JAMES STEWART.

Dated att Portsmouth
June y^e 22, 1744.

Petition in relation to a certain tract of land.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth Esqr. Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Hono^{ble} his Majestys Council for said Province

Humbly Shew the Inhabitants of the Town of Charlestown in the County of Middlesex in the province of the Massachusetts Bay That in the Year Sixteen hundred and Sixty by Vertue of an order of the Generall Court of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay. There was laid out a Tract of Land on the western Side of Merrimack River for the use of the School of Charlestown aforesaid Containing One Thousand Acres More or Less at a place Call'd by the Indians Souhaganack and within the Bounds of old Dunstable a Coppy of which Laying Out and the Bounds thereof is hereunto annext. That in the Year Sixteen hundred & Seventy one The Town of Charlestown obtained a Deed for the Same Land from three Indians Then Inhabitants near Merrimack River a Coppy of which Deed is Also hereunto Annext. That by the late Burning of the Boundary line Between the province of the Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire the Said Tract of Land falls within the province of New Hampshire

Wherefore the s^d Inhabitants pray your Excellency and Honours That when you shall be pleased to Take Under Consideration the making any Grants of Confirmation the Said Tract of Land may be Confirmed to the Proprietors or at least no ways Infringed Upon by any New Grants that the Proprietors May be held in their Just Rights that the Needless Expence of Law Suits may be prevented and Your petitioner as In Duty Bound Shall ever pray &c

Aug. 4, 1742.

JOHN FOYE In the behalf of the said Inhabitants

Indian Deed.

To all People to whom these Presents shall come Greeting. Know ye that we Nimrod alias Ohkohhan Son of Robin Indian and Wunnun-togin Son of Pahphomo-hammunt Indian and John, Indian alias Jahananunguiss son of Wassarmemit, now Inhabitants of Naamcock on Merrimack River near Patucket, for and in consideration of a valuable sum of money to us and to each of us well and truly paid by the Selectmen of Charlestown in the behalf of their Town, the receipt whereof we do by these presents acknowledge and therewith to be fully Satisfied contented and paid and thereof and of every part and parcel thereof do fully clearly and absolutely acquit release and discharge the said Selectmen and Town of Charlestown their heirs and assigns forever by these presents have granted bargained and sold aliened enfeoffed and confirmed and by these presents do fully clearly and absolutely grant bargain and sell alien enfeoffe and confirm unto the said Selectmen and Town of Charlestown one parcel of Land containing by estimation one

thousand acres, be it more or less, situate lying and being within the bounds and limits of Souhgenuck land lying near the upper end of the Second great Interval and on the South side the said River beginning at a great hill called Dram-cup-hill and so extending down the river about two miles and so to ly in every respect and particular according to the record of said thousand acres (abiding yet on file in the County records) granted by the hon^{ble} General Court of the Massachusetts to the School of Charlestown. To have and to hold the above granted and bargained premises and every part and parcel thereof with all the privileges and appurtenances to the same appertaining or in any wise belonging both upland Meadow Interval-land Swamps Rivers, Brooks broke up land fishing places with all the benefits profits and Commodities of the same to the said Town and school of Charlestown and Selectmen thereof and to their heirs and assigns forever and to their and their only proper use and behoof and we the said Ninrod alias Tash-kobham Wunnuntogin and John alias Pakana-nunguiss for us and each of us our heirs administrators and assigns forever do covenant promise and grant to and with the said Town and Selectmen of Charlestown for the time being and so from time to time that we the said [Indians] (1) now are and of ancient times have been by our forefathers and near Relations the proper and true owners of the aforesaid Land, according to the best title that any Indians can claim, and that we have (And hereafter shall be ready the likes to do in case of need, made out our just right and title therein and thereto and that we have good right full power and lawful authority to grant bargain and sell all Indian right Title and Interest therein or thereto unto the Said Selectmen and Town of Charlestown and that they the said Selectmen and Town of Charlestown shall and may at all times and from time to time forever hereafter quietly and peaceably have hold occupy possess and enjoy the above granted and bargained premises with all the profits and Commodities privileges and appurtenances to the same appertaining or in any wise belonging as aforesaid without the lawful Lett hindrance trouble molestation or denial of us the said [Indians] or either of us our heirs Executors Administrators or assigns of us or either of us or of any of them or of any other person or persons whatsoever lawfully claiming and having any Indian Right Title or Interest therein or thereto by from or under us or either of us or by any other ways or means whatsoever. In witness whereof we the said [Indians] have hereunto set our hands and seals this fourteen day of July in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and seventy one. Ninrod alias Tash-kobham, his mark and

(1) Names as before. Ed.

a seal Pakanun-guiss his Mark and a seal Wunnuntogin his Mark and a seal. Read, signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us Joseph Whiting, Eleazar, Monoquasson Jacob alias Patatuck his mark Jonathan Danforth.

July 15, 1671. Wunnuntogin and Pakana-nunguiss Indians late of Natakuck now of Wamesit freely acknowledged this writing to be their act and Deed. Daniel Gookin Assistant.

July 15, 1671 Ninrod Alias Tashkohhan acknowledged this Instrument to be his act and Deed before me. Edw^d Tyng Assis^t

Charlestown Octo^r 8th 1695. Entred by Sam^l Phipps Record^r Copy from the Registry of Deeds for middlesex Book 10, page 425-6

Examd. by

Fras. Foxcraft Reg^r

At a Second Sessions of the General Court held at Boston y^e 16th of October 1660

By Virtue of an Order of the Generall Court laid out for the use of the School of Charlestown. One Thousand Acres of Land more or Less in the Wilderness on the Western Side of Merremacke River at a place comonly called by the Indians Souhaganucke beginning at the foot of a great hill and so extending Eastward about Two Miles down the said River & bounded with the River North and by Land laid out for Mrs. Anna Cole on the East. The Wilderness elsewhere Surrounding according to marked Trees all which are Sufficiently bounded with C. and is more fully Demonstrated by a Plat taken of the same by
Jonathan Danforth Surveyor

The Court doth allow and approve of this Return

A true Copy as of Record

Attest J. Willard Secy

Petition in relation to conflicting town meetings.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. General Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} His majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly convened the 10th Day of May 1748

The Humble Petition of Joseph Blanchard of Dunstable in said Province in behalf of himself & other Freeholders & Inhabitants of the said Town Shews

That on the 12th Day of March last past the Selectmen of Dunstable afores^d Issued a Warrant Directed to the Constable of said Town Requiring him to Warn all the Inhabitants of said Town who were Qualified to Vote in the choice of Town officers to meet the 30th Day of the same month to chuse Town officers for the Current Year, &c. That the Inhabitants of the said Town accordingly met & after some Debate Concerning the Qualifications of Voters in such affairs they proceeded to the Business of the meeting & fifty three then assembled who were Qualified according to the Laws by which they had heretofore been Govern'd who Divided into two parties thirty six in one & Seventeen in the other & each chose a moderator Select men & all other Town officers who are all sworn to the faithful Discharge of their Respective Offices whereby there are two or a Double set of officers for every office in the said Town the Evident Consequence of which is the utmost confusion—That there is an absolute necessity for Officers in the said Town Legally chosen & Qualified whose Authority there may be no just Grounds to Dispute as well with Regard to the Province taxes as to those matters & things which more Immediately Concern the Town the Decision of which in the Common Course of the Law would be both tedious & Expensive and not answer the Exigencies of the Town. That these Inconveniences to the said Town are in a great measure owing

to their particular Circumstances being but Lately Incorporated can have no Custom to Govern their proceedings in such cases And to the Defect of the Province Laws Relating hereunto. For your Petitioner cannot find there is any Law of this Province that Determines the Qualifications of Voters in such Town meetings for the Choice of Town Officers the only Law that Relates to that matter Says That the Free holders & other Inhabitants of Each Town Ratable at twenty Pounds Estate to one Single Rate besides the Poll &c. Shall Vote But there being no Law that Distinguishes what Estate is Ratable and what is not (which yet the very Term Ratable Estate supposes) the Directions of this Law in this case are Intirely useles

That it would greatly Contribute to the Peace and Dispatch of such meetings if the Law was Express & Clear who should Govern them till a moderator is fairly chosen for in matters of Importance & when the People are Divided every man having an Equal Right to Govern they dispute as hotly about that as any matter they have to do In which point the Law is Intirely Silent and with Respect to Towns newly Erected no customs can have Existence (as was before hinted) But such as can have no operation that Such Places Especially must Labour under Insuperable Difficulties unless aided by the General assembly or the Standing General laws of the Province in this Particular amended

Wherefore your Petitioner most Humbly Prays that the Premises may be consider'd with all Convenient Dispatch— That the Choice made by the majority of the Votes afores^d may be confirm'd and declared valid or that the whole proceedings may be nullified and a new meeting called under the Direction of the General assembly—and some Law Enacted that may Prevent the like Inconveniences for the future. And your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray &c

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

In Council May 17. 1748

read & ordered to be sent down

to y^e Hon^{ble} House

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Prov of New }
Hampshire }

In the House of Representatives 17th May 1748

Voted that y^r Petitioner be heard on this Petition y^r next Thursday come seven night & that he (at his own cost) serve both sets of Selectmen & both Town Clerks that were chosen on s^d thirtyeth of March with a copy of this Petition & this order of Court between this Day & y^e next Fryday night that they may shew cause if any they have why y^e Prayer of y^r Petition should not be granted

D. Pierce Clk

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurred

Theo Atkinson Secy

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

May 26th 1748

Voted That y^e whole Proceedings of y^e Town of Dunstable at their meeting on y^e thirtyeth of March last be nullified & made void and it is hereby order'd that a meeting be held by the Freeholders & Inhabitants of s^d Town of Dunstable qualified to vote as is herein after mentioned on the third Wednesday of June next at ten o'clock in y^e forenoon at y^e meeting House in s^d Dunstable to choose a Town Clerk Selectmen & all other Town officers as Law Directs which meeting shall be warned by posting up a Copy of this order of Court attested by y^e Secretary at two publick Houses in s^d Town ten Days at least before y^e Time appointed for holding s^d meeting and Capt Thomas Coleburn of Nottingham West is hereby appointed to be the moderator of s^d meeting & to be paid for his Trouble therein by said Town of Dunstable and it is resolved that all Freeholders being Inhabitants & all other inhabitants ratable at twenty Pounds Estate according to y^e last year's Invoice of s^d Dunstable have a Right to Vote at s^d meeting & that y^e Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

D. Pierce Cl^k

In Council May 27th 1748
read & concurr'd

Theod. Atkinson Secy

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

In Council May 27th 1748

read & non concurr'd and Voted that the Several Votes Past at the meeting within mentioned of which Magr. Zacheus Lovwell was moderator be & hereby are ratified & Confirmed & that the respective officers elected at the said meeting be Deemed the Lawfull officers of the town for the year Insueing & that the other meeting mentioned above, held in s^d Town at the same time of which Mr. Jonathan Lovwell was chosen clerk and all the votes actions & Transactions thereof be & hereby are made Void & of none Effect and Tis hereby further order'd & Directed that all Parties in the s^d Town conform themselves accordingly

The^o Atkinson Secy

Sent down for Concurrence

Prov. of }
New Hamp } In the House of Representatives 27th May 1748

Voted That the foregoing Vote of the Hon. Council be nonconcurr'd & that y^e House adhere to their former Vote

D. Pierce Cl^k

Petition for dividing the Province into Counties.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Govr. &c. the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Councill & House of Representatives in Gen^l Assembly Conveined. Portsmouth y^e 9th day of Apr. 1754.

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Province of New Hamp^t on the West side of Merrymack River Would most Humbly Remonstrate That the Extent of the Settlements of this Province is upward of One Hundred Miles Westward from Portsmouth the Place where all the Courts in the Province are held.

That the Great Difficulties of Travill & Expence to and from the Court on all County Emergencies Lays the Western Inhabit^{ts} under Insuperable Difficultys as well as Occasions Great delay to the Partys & Jurors whose Business Calls them to the Courts of Judicatory to the Great Impoverishing of the Government. That wee Humbly apprehend that these Grievances might be in Some Good measure Redressed by Dividing the Government Into two Countys and will be a means of a Great Increase of Inhabitants & Improvements in the western parts of this Province

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray That your Excellency & Hon^{rs} would take the Premises into Consideration & Grant Relief by Dividing the Province into two Countys by such a Dividing Line & with Such Powers and authoritys as in your Great Wisdom you shall Judge Convenient and your Pet^{rs} as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray.

Joseph Blanchard
Zach^o Lovewell
Thomas Harwood
Jonathan French
William Cox
George Lyons
Nath^l Perkins
Edward Cox
Samson French
Eleazer Farwell
John Sarls
Zach^o Lovewell jun.
Benjamin French
Joseph French
Joseph Eayrs
Samuell French
Charles Cox
Winkall Wright
James Jewit
David Clemons
William Lund
Henry Parker
Samuel Kenney
Thomas Lund

Oliver Woods
Jonathan Lund
John Huston
Medad Combs
Charls Butterfield
Isaac Powers
Jonathan Powers Jun
John Snow
——— ?
John Roberson
James Sawyer
John Honey
William Harris
Tho^o Kellecut
Jonathan Powers
Samuell Perham
Giddon Honey
Jonathan Combs
James Taylor
William Lancey
John Butterfield
John Alld
Thomas Butterfield
John Butterfield Jun.

John Aild Jun
 Thomas Laucey
 Jann - Combs
 Nehemiah Lovewell
 Ephraim Lund
 John Pirkin?
 Ephraim Butterfield
 Thomas Mame
 Ephraim Butterfield Jr.
 Stephen Butterfield
 Jeems Herwood
 John Herwood
 Jeams Herwood Jun.
 William Blanchard
 John Phelps
 Amos Phillips
 Jonathan Phelps
 Bery Packer
 Elnathan Blood
 Daniel Moor
 David Hobart
 Gershom Hobart

Joseph Still
 Daniel Merrill
 Henry Kinne
 Jeremiah Colburn
 Samuel Huston
 Daniel Searles
 John Combs
 Joseph Winn Jun.
 Phineas Lund
 Peter Honey
 Jos Hale
 Salvanus Whitney
 Thomas Heall
 Thomas Blanchard
 Banjarnan Davis
 Tho Davis
 John Aven
 Jonathan Cram
 Thomas Pollard
 Ephraim Adams
 James Searles

Warning for a Town meeting.

Province of
 New Hampj

Whereas the General Court by Law have Impowered Eleaz^r Tyng, Zacheus Lovewell and Joseph French Esqr. to call a meeting of the Proprietors of the Common and undivided [Land] in Old Dunstable for Choosing a Clerk and for agreeing on som method for calling meeting of said Proprietors for the future in s^d Law it is Provided that no Person shall appear or Vote as an attorney for more than one original Share. These are Therefore to Notify and Warn the proprietors aforesaid that they meet at the House of M Benjamin French Molder in Dunstable in the Province afores^d on the Thirtieth Day of April Next at nine of the Clock in the morning Then and there

- 1 To Choose a Clerk to said proprietors
- 2 to agree on som method for Culling meeting of Said proprietors for the future.

Dunstable March 18, 1760.

ELEAZ^r TYNG
 ZACHEUS LOVEWELL
 JOSEPH FRENCH

New hampshire Dunstable april 30th 1760 the above having ben Posted and Published according to Law, The proprietors mett at time and place agreeable to the above Notice and made choice of M^r John Tyng for their Moderator by a majority of the Interest Present

Eleazer Tyng
 Zacheus Lovewell
 Joseph French

Att a meeting of the Proprietors of the Common and undivided Land in old Dunstable held at the house of M Benjamin French Inholder in Dunstable in New Hamps April 30. 1760

The proprietors having been called upon to give in their votes for a Clerk and Their Votes Collected Sorted and Counted it appeared that

Joseph French Esq^r was Chosen by a Majority of the Interest Present who was sworn to the faithfull Discharge of his Office by M^r Justice Lovewell

Then the following method for calling meeting for the future was agreed on and Voted that upon application of five of the said Proprietors to the Clerk of s^t proprietors in writing under their hands desiring a meeting of s^t Proprietors he is directed and Impowered to call a meeting of the s^t Proprietors by Posting up a Notification at some Publick place in Dunstable in Newhamp^r and in Dunstable in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and Notifying the same in the Boston Gazett fifteen Days before the said meeting Expressing in the s^t Notification all such matters and things as are desired to be Transacted at s^t meeting the s^t meeting or meetings to be appointed and held in Dunstable in New Hampshire as the Clerk shall appoint and in Case of the Death of the Clerk or his Refusell to Call a meeting or meetings as aforesaid then and in such case Co^r Tyng and Lieutenant Robert Fletcher or either of them upon such application are Directed and Impowered to call such meeting or meetings as aforesaid.

Attest John Tyng moderator

A true Copy attest pr. Joseph French Proprietors clerk

Att a meeting of the Proprietors of old Dunstable at the House of Mr. Benjamin French Inholder in Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire on Thursday y^e 24 day of July 1760 Voted and Chose M^r Joseph Blaney moderator Then voted that this meeting be adjourned to the Wednesday the 15 day of October next ensuing to the House of Tho^s Harwood Inholder in Dunstable to meet again at two of the Clock in the afternoon in order to act on the articles in the notification for this meeting.

October y^e 15 1760 the Proprietors of old Dunstable being meett according to the above adjournment at the house of M^r Thomas Harwood Inholder in Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire and the moderator did not attend the meeting and the said Proprietors waited untill the evening of said day and then the Question was put to the said Proprietors whether they would proceed to go on with the Business of said meeting and it was answered in the negative by the majority of the s^t Proprietors present and then the said proprietors Dispersed

A True Entry of all the Votes and Proceedings of s^t meeting

pr. Joseph French Prop^r Clerk

A True Copy attest pr. Joseph French Prop^r Clerk

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable Regularly Assembled y^e 3^d day of Febr^y 1763.

Extracts from the votes of said meeting.

A Vote Proposed as followeth

That Jonathan Lovewell Esq^r Capt. Nehemiah Lovewell & Lieut Robert Fletcher be a Com^{tee} to make Answer to the Petition of John Willoughby & others who Pray that they may be set off to Holles and that they or either of them attend the General Court and opose said Petition as it is unreasonable and there shew reason why it should not be Granted:

Passed in the Affirmative

A True Copy pr Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

Febr^y y^e 3^d 1763

Sam^l H^{ob}art as attorney for the town of Dunstable.

We the Subscribers of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire

Constitute and appoint Sam^l Hobart of holles in the Province aforesaid Gentⁿ our Lawfull attorney in the matter of Gitting a Part of Said Dunstable annexed or Joined to holles aforesaid to Carry on a Pediton of us the Subscribers in the General Cort wherein we Signify our Desire of having a part of Dunstable annexed to holles aforesaid to do all we ourselves might or could Lawfully do in or about the premises if Present by virtue hereof as Witness our hands and seals this fourth Day of march A. D. 1763

Signed Sealed & Deliver'd
in Presents of
John Willoughby Jr.
W^m Cumings

David Hobart
Daniel Mesam
James Hobart
Elnathan Blood
Amos Phillips
Gershom Hobart
Benj^r Parker
Jonathan Hobart
Oliver Lawrence

*Answer to the Petition of sundry inhabitants of the town
of Dunstable.*

Province of)
New Hamp)

To his Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{le} his majesty's
Council and assembly of said Province.

Whereas sundry Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable have Petitioned your Excellency & Hon^{ts} Complaining that they are unjustly used by Dunstable and Praying that they may be Freed from Supporting the Gospel where they can have no benifit thereby and be added to Holles Therefore we the Subscribers by order of the Town of Dunstable Beg leave to answer said Petition and shew that the Comp^t is groundless & the Prayer unreasonable as to Dunstable meeting house which they complain of its being at so Great a distance from them if it is unjustly fixed it is owing to them Selves for many of them voted to have it there and non of them Voted against it for after the Timber was drawed to the place a Vote could not be obtained to Raise it where it is before the Petitioners agreed to it and they can have the meeting house moved where it will be Just and equal to have it where they please for when ever they have endeavoured to have it moved there has been enough of the Town to Join them in it so as to obtain a vote for it as appears by the votes herewith and when such votes have been passed they have failed pursuing it for fear it should be done and so they prevented from being set off to Hollis as they have in time past so it seems they are now stired up by some of Hollis people to bring this Petition in order to uphold the unjust proceeding of Hollis in setting their meeting house where it now is for in the year 1756 Hollis joined these Petitioners in

a Petition of like kind with this and had a day appoynted to be heard on the same and by order of the Gen^l court the select^s of Dunstable were notified of it and when Hollis & the Petitioners Inhabitants of Dunstable found that Dunstable was determined to answer that Petition and shew the unjust design of it the Petitioners were either afraid or ashamed to appear in defence of their own Petition. And now Hollis are Endeavouring to have the South part of Monson annexed to them and should that be don and also the westerly half of Dunstable annexed to them then their meeting house where it now is will be aboute Right so that could it now be obtained to breake up and ruin two Towns it may hereafter be sumthing of a cover to hide the Iniquity of Hollis and help the private Interest of some mercenary persons but can't possibly promote the Publick Good nor help the Interest of these Towns. In order to Incorporate these Towns so as to promote the Publick Good & the peace and hapiness of the Inhabitants (which by Runing the Province line fell in to this Province) and to prevent the Truble of after Divisions the Governor and Council took a very wise and Parental ceare by sending a Com^{tee} of Disinterested Gent^s to veiw and examin in to the Situation of the Inhabitants that so they might know what lines would best answer that Good end and after said com^{tee} had taken such view and heard all parties and made their Report to the Gov^r & Council these Towns were incorporated as the lines now stand and in our Charter the Governor & Council have Reserved to themselves their heirs and successors the Power of Dividing said Town when it shall appear necessary and convenient for the benefit of the Inhabitants which at present is not nor cant be and the Petitioners having Prayed the Governor and Council to divide them from Dunstable and finding that the Gov^r & Council are Imovably set to defend the Publick Good and the Inhabitants of Dunstable in the Injoyment of those Priviledges Granted to them by their Charter so that from them they can tobtain their unreasonable Request They now Pray the Hon^{le} assembly to give them sum aide as the Gov^r and council unreasonably denighed or neglected to releave them in their difficulty as they pretend but we don't doubt they will meet with same Repulse from the Hon^{le} assembly as they have from the Gov. & Council in such an unreasonable and unjust request for should Hollis move their meeting house where it ought to be and the Petitioners act Peacably with their own Town they will then be much nearer to their own meeting in Dunstable than they can be to Hollis meeting as appears by the Plan of each Town and by what they say themselves in their own Petition aboute the distance they are now from Hollis meeting and as to what they urge of

their once belonging to Hollis and helping to settle a minister there is not true if it is they did not live on the places they do now for many if not all the Petitioners have settled in Dunstable since Mr. Emerson settled in Hollis and for them to urge such false please can never answer the end they Expect so as to excite the pity of this Great and Hon^r Court who can't but abhor the designs of those who try to destroy the peace and ability of Towns to advance sum private Intrest and when the reason they offer is not true and in behalf of the Town of Dunstable we pray^r Excellency and Honours would dismiss said Petition which is so Groundless & unreasonable and we as in duty bound shall ever pray

JON^s LOVEWELL
 NEHEMIAH LOVEWELL } Com
 ROBERT FLETCHER } tee

Dunstable Feb^r y^e 4th 1763

Petition of Zacheus Lovewell and Joseph Blanchard.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Gov^r and Commander in Chief in & over his majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Hon^r his majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General assembly Convened May the 4th 1768

The Humble Petition of Zacheus Lovewell & Joseph Blanchard Esqr^s as two of the Proprietors of Dunstable and in behalf of said Proprietors Shews

That the Proprietors of the Common & undivided Land laying in Old Dunstable so calld live & their Lands now lye in the Province of the Mass Bay as well as in this Province and by the method they had Established, their meetings were to be called by their Clerk who was the Late Joseph Blanchard Esq^r Deceased, whereby that method is Impracticable & your Petition^rs are advised that the standing Laws of the Province do not Direct to any method of Calling meetings in Such Cases.

That as to those Proprietors who live & the lands which lay in the Massachusetts there is no Difficulty, because there is a Law Providing in such Cases but as they are but a Part and as to the Lands the Lesser Part a meeting by virtue of the Law there would not answer the General advantage, nor authorize a meeting of the whole which is the View they have & which the Situation of their affairs Demand, there being a Present necessity of Transacting Some Business at such a meeting. Wherefore they Pray that the Said Proprietors may be Convend in this Province by the Same method they may be there, that all may be called together in the Same way & at the Same time in both Provinces & when they are met they

may unite in One Body & Settle the future method of Calling their meetings. and that your Petition^{rs} may have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly and (if should be formed a General act it may Prevent the like application hereafter but which they Humbly Submit) they shall as in duty Bound ever Pray &c

ZACHEUS LOVEWELL
JOSEPH BLANCHARD

In Council May 5th 1758
read & ordered to be sent down
to the Hon^{ble} House

Theo Atkinson Secy.

Province of) In the House of Representatives May 6th 1758
New Hamp^{sh})

Voted That the Petitioner have Liberty to bring in a General Bill
Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read and Concurr^d

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH

Petition by Joseph Blanchard.

Province of)
New Hamp^{sh})

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov &c. of the
Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council
& Assembly of said Province

the Petition of Joseph Blanchard Esq in behalf of himself
and Sundry others of the Prop^{rs} of the Common & Undivided
Lands in the Township of old Dunstable Who Humbly Shews

That on the 15th day of Octo^r last said Prop^{rs} had a meeting
which was held by adjournment and among other things it
was Inserted in the Warning of said Meeting to Choose a Clerk
for said Prop^{rs}. But the Moderator that was Chose at the first
Meeting did not attend the Adjournment. Therefore a Question
Arose Whether the Prop^{rs} Could Legally Proceed in the
Choice of another Moderator and Proceed in the Business of
said meeting. But after some Debate Some of the Prop^{rs} did
Proceed and Choose a Moderator and a Clerk Who has since
Commenced an action against the Former Clerk for the Rec-
ords of said Prop^{rs} and your Petitioner is advised that the Dis-
put is of such a nature that a Determination in the Common
Law will be attended with many Difficultys which will Greatly
hurt the Interest of said Prop^{rs}. Wherefore y^r Petitioner
humbly prays that y^r Excell^{ty} & Hon^{rs} will take the Premises

under Consideration and appoint Some Suitable Person to Call and Govern a Meeting of said Prop^{rs} for the Choice of a Clerk or grant Such other Relief as in your Great Wisdom you shall see meet and y^r Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray &c

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

May 2^d 1762.

Province of } In the House of Representatives June 25, 1762
New Hamp }

This Petition being read The parties Concerned appeared & after being fully heard thereon

Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted & that Col^o Meshach Weare Col^o Peter Gilman & John Phillips Esq^{rs} be & hereby are appointed to Call & Moderate Said Meeting & that the petitioners have Liberty to bring In a Bill accordingly

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred

W^m Brown Esq^r's letter and Power of Attorney.

Sir.

Being informed by Col^o Brattle that a Proprietors meeting of the common & Undivided Lands in Dunstable was to be held there the 4th Instant in order to remove Mr French from being Proprietors Clerk & to place in his room young Blanchard; I herein inclose you a power of Attorney to appear & vote for me at said meeting hoping you will use your utmost endeavor to prevent the records belonging to this Propriety from returning into the hands of a family that the Proprietors in general have I believe but little Cause to thank them for the use they have already made of them. My late Brother Benjamin had 4 original Rights in the Town of Dunstable and I am his surviving administrator Brother Samuel & myself haveing Letters of Administration on his Estate. I heartily wish you & the injured part of the Proprietors a good Issue of this affair & remain Sir

Your most Humble Serv^t

W. Browne

Beverly June 2^d 1760
Mr. John Tyng

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable at the meeting house in Said Town on the sixth day of October 1760 Voted and Chose Jonathan Lovewell Esqr. moderator Voted that Zacheus Lovewell Esquire hire preaching untill the Last of November Next and that he Draw money out of the Treasury to pay the same and that Two Hundred pounds old Tent be raised and assessed on the Inhabitation of this Town for that End

Voted that the Meeting house be moved and that Messrs. Joseph Fletcher Joseph Danford and Abraham Kindal be a Comittee to fix a place where will be Just and Equal and that Elathan Blood and John Serls be a Comittee to wait on said Comittee and Git them to attend on said Business and that a Survaor be Provided if need be and all the Cost be paid by the Town

And then it was Voted that the meeting Should be adjourned five

week to meet at the Dwelling house of Coll^d Zacheus Lovewell Esquir and the meeting was adjourned

Accordingly November y^r 10 1760 the Inhabitants of said Dunstable meet according to adjournment

the Committee appointed to fix the meeting house place reported that they tho^t the most Just Place for a meeting house for this Town is about one Hundred rods westwardly from Lund Bridge so called by a pine Tree marked $\frac{1}{2}$ on the Socherdly side of the road that Leads to Tho^s Hails Land from said Bridge

Proposed that the Vote Passed y^r 6th of October to sett of John Willoby with his Lands to Hollis to be reconsidered Passed in affirmative.

Proposed that John Willoby and his Land that viz about 130 acres about his house be set off to Hollis upon Conditions he pay Town and Province Tax with this Town untill be dun by Gen^l Court Passed in the affirmative.

(Province of } To Oliver Constable of the Town of Dunstable in
New Hamp^r } said Province Greeting in his majestys name you are
(Seal) hereby Required forthwith to Notify and warn all the Inhabitants of said Dunstable that they Eemble and meet at the meeting house in said Dunstable on Monday y^r Sixth Day of october next att Two of Clook afternoon 1 to see if the Town will agree that John Willoby and others att pine hill be sett off to Hollis with their Lands. 2 to se if the Town will agree to hire preaching and do anything Relative thereto as shali then be agreed on.

3 to se if the Town will Build a Bridge over Nashua river against Jon^s Powers Jun^s Land and do what shall be agreed on Relating the said

4 to raise any sums of money for Town Chardges as shall be agreed on

5 to se if the Town will agree to move the meeting house in the Center of Land or where will be Just and equal and do anything to Effect the Saim as shall then be agreed on and se that you make Due return

Dunstable Sep y^r 17th 1760

ZACHEUS LOVEWELL
JONATHAN LOVEWELL
JOSEPH FRENCH

Province of }
New Hamp^r }

Dunstable october y^r 6th 1760 Pursuant to the within Written warant I have notified and warned all within mentioned to meet at the Time and Place within mentioned and for the Business within mentioned

Oliver Larnwance Constable

A True Copy Examd

Jon^s Lovewell Town Clerk

Voted that Col^d Lovewell Coll^d French Capt Lund Benj^s French and Dan^s Serls be a Committee To Treat with the Inhabitance of Pine Hill about there being sett off to Hollis and that they make repoart to the Town at the Next adjournment of this meeting then Voted that the meeting be adjourned to the 24th of November Instant to the Dwelling hous of Zacheus Lovewell Esquir to meet at one of the Clook afternoon and the meeting was adjourned accordingly November y^r 24th 1760 the Inhabitance of Dunstable meet according to adjournment the Committee appointed to treat with the Inhabitance of pine hill about there being sett off to Hollis reported that the said Inhabitance offered fifteen

hundred pound old Ten^r to the Town if they were sett off and a Vote was Proposed to se if the Town would sett off said Inhabittance to hollis and it Passed in the negative. A vote was proposed to se if the town would except the Com^ttees report about the meeting house place. It passed in the negative

Voted—the Vote Passed y^e 6 of october last to move the meeting house be reconsidered a Vote was Proposed the Inhabittance of Pine Hill should be Excused from paying to the men raised for hiring Preaching Passed in the negative

Voted that the Messrs Joseph Fletcher Abraham Kimbel Joseph Danforth be allowed fifty six pound old Tenor in full of ther account for the Service for fixing the meeting house Place and Zacheus Lovewell Esquire Twenty four pound old Ten^r his account Entertaing the Comittee and Benj^t French his account for Ditto three pound six Shillings old Tenor and Benj^t Parker his account for Ditto Twelve pound old Tenor.

Tho^s Harwood his account for Ditto Twenty four Shillings old tenor Elathan Blood and John Serls for waitting on the Comittee and gitting them to attend the Business Twenty six pound Ten Shilling old Tenor and the same be asessed on the Inhabittance of this Town and paid out of Treasury to the Several Persons as allowed above and then the meeting was Dismissed.

A True Entrey of the Votes of said meeting

Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk

A Copy true from Dunstable Town Book of Records

Exam'd pr. Jon^s Lovewell Town Clerk

Dunstable Nov^r y^e 26 1760.

Letter to Hon. Henry Sherburne.

SIR We the Subscribers Proprietors in Dunstable having this day seen a Copy of a petition of M^r Jo^s Blanchard for himself & Sundry others wherein we think facts are misrepresented there was a meeting of the proprietors at the desire of Mr. Blanchard who was desirous to have his brother Clerk the Proprietors in general are well pleased with Coll^d French their present Clerk. the question put at that meeting was whether they would proceed any further in the business of s^d meeting and Determined in the negative the meeting dismissed and after most of the Proprietors and Clerk gone the petitioner late at night as we hear attempted to go on with the meeting & chose himself moderator and his brother Clerk which attempt we think unworthy of a Gent^l and his brother has since brought his action at Law against Coll. French the Clerk which action is now pendling and we think it will tend to the peace of the proprietors to have it there Determined and this petition dismissed & had there been time to call a meeting we

doubt not but it would be the mind of the proprietors—we are
your Honours most obedient
Humble Serv^{ts}

ELEAZER TYNG
JOHN TYNG
THOMAS HARWOOD
THOMAS LUND.

Dunstable June 22 1762

To the Honourable Henry Sherburne Esq. Speaker of the
Honourable House of Representatives to be Communicated.

*Papers relating to the Settlement of Rev. Samuel Bird
of Dunstable, 1744-1749.*

List of the Qualified voters in the Town of Dunstable.

Col. Joseph Blanchard	John Alld
Thomas Harwood	Jon ^s Bowers
Noah Johnson	Henry Parker
Sam ^r Whiting	John Searles
Jonas French	Phin ^s Lund
Jon ^s French	Tho ^s Cowen
Jon ^s Lovewell	Neh ^m Lovewell
Tho ^s Patch	Tho ^s Hale
Isaac Beauchamp	W ^m Lancey Jr.
Henry Adams	Josiah Butterfield
Daniel Searles	Benj ^s Richardson
Joseph Butterfield	Sylvanus Whitney
Tho ^s Lund	Jabez Davis
W ^m Lund	Benj ^s Parker
Jon ^s Snow	John Willauby
Thomas Blanchard	John Butterfield
Eph ^m Adams	Eph ^m Butterfield
Jon ^s Lund	John Huston
Eph ^m Lund	Benj ^s French
John Lovewell Jun.	John McClenche
Joseph Farley	Sampson French

To the moderator of the meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable y^e 2^d day of march 1746. This certifies that the above list is the names of the Qualified voters in said Town and all therein mentioned have a Right to vote in the affaires of said meeting

Dunstable March y^e 2^d 1746.

JONATHAN LOVEWELL } Selectmen
THOMAS HARWOOD } of Dunstable

This is to certifie that the town meeting in Dunstable the 30th day of march Last past at a motion of Sundry of the freeholders and other Inhabitants for the Choice of a Person to Sort the Votes of a moderator, a vote was proposed by Joseph Blanchard by Poleing Previous to the vote & voted by a great majority they Would and that by thirty five votes Joseph Blanchard Was Chosen for that Purpose A motion again was made and seconded to Bring in their votes for a moderator and that Zach^r Lovewell by thirty five votes Was chosen moderator

and that by the same number of votes Joseph Blanchard was chosen town clerk & Joseph Blanchard Zacheus Lovewell & John Butterfield was chosen Select^s and did further Choose Other Town Officers.

Att^y

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

May 26th 1747

those votes was Certified by major Zacheus Lovewell as moderator after he was Chosen

J. Blanchard T Clerk

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire Assembled at the House of Jonathan Lovewell (Inholder) in said Dunstable according to Law on Monday the sixth day of July 1747

Extracts from the votes of said Meeting.

Voted and Chose Joseph Blanchard Esqr. Moderator of said Meeting it was then voted that this meeting should be adjourned to the last Monday of August next to meet again that day at the same place at two of the Clock in the afternoon the meeting was accordingly adjourned. The Freeholders & other Inhabitants of said Dunstable being meet again at the House of Jonathan Lovewell in said Dunstable on monday y^e 31st day of August 1747 Pursuant to the aforesaid adjournment y^e 6th day of July 1747 a vote was then Proposed whether a Minister Should be chose this Meeting or not and it was voted in the affirmative that a Minister be chose this Meeting.

Then a Vote was proposed as followeth—

Where as the Church of Christ in this Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire on the sixth day of July last made Choice of the Rev. M^r Samuel Bird for their Pastor and Teacher and having presented their vote to this Town with a desire that this Town would Concur with them in their Choice and make choice of the said M^r Sam^l Bird for the Settled Minister of this Town Now there fore be it voted and agreed that the said Churches Choice be Concurr'd with an that the Said M^r Samuel Bird be Chose for the Settled Minister of this Town voted in the affirmative (& declared by the Moderator

A true Copy Exam^d pr.

JONATHAN LOVEWELL Town Clerk

We the Subscribers Inhabitants & Freeholders of the Town of Dunstable hereby Desire & Impower Joseph Blanchard Cap^t Joseph French & M^r Jn^l Butterfield or either of them in Our Names & Behalf to Represent to the Gen^l Assembly of this Province the Unreasonableness & illegal Proceeding of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Dunstable in their town meetings the Summr past and Particularly the Town meeting July the sixth 1747 and the votes at the adjournment of that meeting.

And all votes Relating to the Choice or Settlement of Samuel Bird as the Minister of this town and pray that they may be made void or Otherwise Relieve us in the premises.

Province of }
New Hamp. }

Jason Russell
John Lovewell Jun.
Benjamin French
Phineas Lund
Thomas Patch
Ephraim Butterfield
Amos Phillips
Joseph Farley
Joseph Swallow

Gideon Honey
Samuel Sarles
Henry Adams
David Hobart

Simeon Blood
Josiah Swan
Jon^l French
Joseph Butterfield

Joseph French	Sylvanus Whitney
Jonathan Comes	Phineas Adams
Thomas Blanchard	Ephraim Adams
John Butterfield	Thomas Adams
Elnathan Blood	Gershom Hobart
William Lund	John Willoughby

the names of those persons y^t voted for y^e Rev^d Sam^l Bird being y^e Settled minister of the Town y^e 31 of Aug^t 1747.

Noah Johnson	John Buck
John Lovewell	Gideon Honey
Tho ^s Harwood	Henry Parker
Jon ^s Lovewell	Nehemiah Lovewell
Jon ^s Snow	John Alld
Sampson French	W ^m Alld
John Shed	Tho ^s Heale
John Searles	Tho ^s Cowen
Jona. Searles	Tho ^s Kellecut
Sam ^l Kenney	W ^m Lancy Jun.
Jon ^s Lund	John McClenche
Tho ^s Lund	Josiah Butterfield
Eph ^m Lund	Benj ^s Richardson
Sam ^l Whiting	John Huston
W ^m Johnson	John Honey
Benj ^s Thompson	Jabez Davis

Y^e names of those that voted in the negative.

Joseph Blanchard	Tho ^s Adams
Joseph French	Phin ^s Adams
Josiah Swan	Sylvanus Whitney
Daniel Searles	Jon ^s Combs
W ^m Lund	John Combs
Jon ^s French	Richard Straton
John Lovewell Jun.	John Butterfield
Phin ^s Lund	Elnathan Blood
Tho ^s Blanchard	Amasa Parker
Eph ^m Adams	

The freeholders that are ag^t M^r Bird's Settling and the Sums of y^e yearly income of y^e real Estate sett ag^t the name.

Compare with the Invoice

	Real Estate
Joseph Blanchard	100 0 0
Jonathan French	23 0 0
Joseph French	35
Tho ^s Patch	16
Daniel Searles	24
Joseph Butterfield	15
Tho ^s Blanchard	16
Ephraim Adams	30
John Lovewell Jun	16 0 0
Samuel Searles	18 0 0
Joseph Farley	45 0 0
Jonathan Combs	8 0 0
Phineas Lund	3 0 0
Gideon Honey	5 0 0

John Honey	1
Silvanus Whitney	15
Elnathan Blood	8
Jn ^o Willowbe	
Phillip Clerick	9
Jn ^o Butterfield	20
Eph. Butterfield	14
Benj ^a French	30
Joseph Swallow	1 0 0
Simeon Blood	1
James Harwood	
David Hubbard	8
Amos Phillips	7
Jasen Russell	1
Benj ^a Parker	17
Ger-hom Hubbard	3
Josiah Swan	10
Zacheus Lovewell	31
Tho ^s Adams	38
Jn ^o Phelps	
Jonathan Phelps	
William Cumings	15

 583

Isaac Beauchamp		
John Beauchamp	60	tending Stock
Henry Adams	25	On his wife & children
W ^m Lund	30	on his Father's Land
Jonathan Bowers	15	On his Father's Land

 130

A list of the Freeholders in favor of Mr Bird and the Sum of y^e value of the yearly encome of the Real Estate

Noah Johnson	18
Tho ^s Harwood	50
Samuel Whiting	4
Jonathan Lovewell	37
Tho ^s Lund	6
Jonathan Snow	5
Ephraim Lund	2
John Ald	8
Henry Parker	10
John Searls	4
Nehemiah Lovewell	15
Tho ^s Hale	4
W ^m Lancy	
Josiah Butterfield	4
Benj ^a Richardson	6
John Huston	10
Sampson French	10
Benj ^a Thompson	

 193

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable in the

Province of New Hampshire on Tuesday the fifteenth day of September 1747 Extract from the votes of said meeting a vote proposed as followeth

Whereas this Town of Dunstable at their meeting y^e 31st of August last made Choice of the Rev^d Mr. Samuel Bird for the Settled minister of this Town and did not at the same meeting settle any sum to be paid him for his yearly salary—Therefore it is voted and agreed that the full sum and Quantity of one hundred ounces of coin silver Troy weight Sterling alloy or the full value there of in Bills of Publick Credit be paid annually to the said M^r Samuel Bird for his Salary and to Commence at the day that he is ordained Pastor of the Church of Christ in this Town of Dunstable and that the same be assessed on the Inhabitants of this Town and paid to him annually so long as he shall continue in said office. Unanimously Voted in the affirmative.

A true Copy Exam^d

Att^r

Jon^s Lovewell Town Clerk

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire on Tuesday the fifteenth day of September 1747 Assembled according to Law

Extracts from the votes of said Meeting
then a vote was proposed as followeth—

Where as this Town of Dunstable on the 31st of August last voted and chose y^e Rev^d M^r Samuel Bird for the Settled minister of this Town and Joseph Blanchard Esq^r Henry Adams John Lovewell Jun^r Joseph French Jon^r French Jon^r Combs Josiah Swan Sylvanus Whitney Ephraim Butterfield Thomas Blanchard Joseph Butterfield Richard Stratton Ephraim Adams Thomas Adams Phineas Adams Samuel Searles William Lund Jun^r Phineas Lund & John Combs having manifested their dissatisfaction with the Choice and unwillingness to attend his Ministry therefore voted and agreed that said Persons and their Poles for the time being Lyable by Law to be rated and such Tenants for the time being as shall live on their Estates unless such Tenants shall give their attendance at said M^r Birds meeting be and hereby are Excused and discharged from all rates and Taxes what so ever that shall be raised and assessed on the Inhabitants of this Town for the Settlement Salary or Support of the said M^r Bird and all other their Estate Real and Personall while in their Possession equally discharged also for the Erecting and finishing a Meeting house where the said M^r Bird shall Preach always Reserving as the Condition of this Grant or vote that the Persons discharged as afore said do not vote in any affair Relating to the Said M^r Birds Settlement Salary or Support or the placing Ordering or Building the said Meeting house and in case any of them for the future do thus act in any of the affairs as afore said then the afore going vote to be void as to such person also provided that when any of said persons shall give their Generall attendance on said M^r Birds Ministry the afore said vote where by they are excused to be void as to such person voted in affirmative A nother vote Proposed as followeth Where as this Town of Dunstable y^e 31st of August last made choice of y^e Rev^d M^r Samuel Bird for the Settled Minister of this Town and having determined to set a Meeting house for the Publick Worship of God near the Common Road of passing through said Town viz. the Road that passes by Thomas Harwood to Nashua River Bridge and Thomas Patch Joseph Farley David Hobart Amos Phillips Benja Parker Elathan Blood John Willoughby Jason Russel Simeon Blood Garsham Hubart & John Butterfield having represented their Circumstances to this Town viz. their liveing near the westerly line of this Town so that if the Meeting house should be Built near said road they say it will

in no measure accommodate them and that they cannot with any Convenience attend the Meeting also that they have lately before they were Incorporated in this Town paid their proportionable part in Settling y^e Rev^d Mr Daniel Emerson now in Hollis where they can now attend with much More Convenience then they can at a Meeting in this Town provided it be near said Road said Persons therefore desire that they may be Excused from paying any thing towards Building a Meeting house near said road and from paying anything towards Settling and Supporting said Mr Samuel Bird so long as he preaches near said road and provided they Constantly attend at said Mr Daniel Emersons Meeting on Lords days and pay their proportion to his Salary and make the Same appear to this Town and that if this Town of Dunstable Should at any time agree upon a place and Build a Meeting house near the Center of this Town or if a Com^{tee} from the Gen^l Court should settle the Place for said House that then they be not any longer Excused from paying as aforesaid

Now therefore this town of Dunstable having Considered the Reasons offered by said Persons moving them to Desire to be Excused from paying as aforesaid it is Voted & agreed that said Tho^s Patch and the other persons beforementioned by Name be Excused from paying anything towards building a meeting House and Settling and Supporting said Mr Samuel Bird in case the said House be Built near Said Road and that so long as he continues to preach there and no longer and it is provided that if at any time this town agree upon a Place and build a meeting House near the Center of this Town or that when ever the Place Shall be Settled by the Gen^l Courts Com^{tee} that then this Vote whereby said Persons are Excused be Null & Void

and it is further provided that said Persons Constantly attend said Mr Emersons meeting on Lord's days and pay their proportion to his Salary and bring Certificate from the Officers of the Church in Hollis and the Select men of that Town that they have thus done and Deliver the Same to the Select men of this Town for the time being from time to time whenever there shall be any money raised for the Building a meeting house or the Support of the Minister as aforesaid and that they & they only of said Persons who thus do be Excused as aforesaid and it is further provided that Said Persons do not act in any affair relating to the Meeting house or the Minister in this town and when ever they or either of them do, this Vote whereby they are Excused to be Void as to the Persons that Shall thus Act.

Unanimously Voted in the affirmative

A true Copy Exam^d pr.

Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk

Petition relating to an illegal town meeting.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire. To the Honourable His Majestys Councill for said Province & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened

The Petition of Joseph Blanchard, Joseph French John Butterfield Jason Russell John Lovewell Jun. Benjamin French Phinehas Lund Thomas Patch, Ephraim Butterfield Amos Phillips Joseph Farley Joseph Swallow, Gideon Henry Sam-

uel Sarles, Henry Adams Josiah Swan Jonathan French, Joseph Butterfield, Thomas Blanchard, Elnathan Blood, William Lund, Sylvanus Whitney, Phinebas Adams, Ephraim Adams Thomas Adams, Gershom Hobart, John Willoughby David Hobart, Phillip Woollen and Simeon Blood most humbly Sheweth That your Petitioners are Inhabitants and Freeholders in the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hampshire. That on the twentieth day of June 1747 Jonathan Lovewell and Thomas Harwood, Two of the Selectmen of said Dunstable issued out and granted a Warrant in writing under their hands unto John Alld Constable of said Town therein and thereby requiring the said Constable to Notify and Warn all the freeholders & other Inhabitants in said Dunstable Qualified to Vote in Town affairs to Convene and meet at the House of Jonathan Lovewell Inholder in said Dunstable on Monday the sixth day of July then next at one of the Clock in the afternoon, among other things To make Choice of a Minister for the Supply of the said Town and to Give the Minister that should be chosen such encouragement as should then be agreed on or do any thing in order for the Settling a Minister in said Town as should then be agreed on.

That the said Constable made his Return of said Warrant and that he had notified and warn'd all the within mentioned to meet at time and place and for the occasions within mentioned That in Consequence of the Said Warrant and Notification There was a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the said Town of Dunstable at the House of the Said Jonathan Lovewell in Dunstable aforesaid on the said sixth day of July afores^d. That at said meeting a Moderator was chosen—And then it was voted that the said meeting Should be adjourned to the last Monday of August *then* next to meet again at the same Place at two of the Clock in the afternoon and the said meeting was accordingly adjourned. That on the said last Monday in August afores^d at a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of said Dunstable at the place aforesd. in Consequence of the said Adjournment one Mr. Samuel Bird was chose for the Settled Minister of said Town

That at a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable afores^d on the fifteenth day of September 1747 (Tho' the warrant for calling said meeting was to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants in said Dunstable to meet) among other things it was voted that the said Mr. Samuel Bird his yearly Salary as Settled Minister of said Town should Be one hundred ounces of Coined Silver Troy Weight Sterling alloy or the full value thereof in Bills of public Credit and to Commence at the Day he shall be ordained Pastor of the Church of Christ in Dunstable That sundry Persons not freeholders in^s

Town voted in & for the Choice of said Minister & for said Salary.

That your Petitioners humbly Conceive that the said Meetings and the Votes past at said Meetings relating to the Choice of the said Mr. Bird to be the settled Minister of said Town and also to the fixing and Settling of the afores^d Salary on him as Minister aforesaid are contrary to an act of this Province Entitled An Act for the Maintenance and supply of the Ministry within this Province. That nigh Two thirds of the freeholders in said Town are against the said Mr. Birds being the minister of Said Town That the said Two Thirds of said Freeholders own near three fourths of the Estate in said Town that must Support and maintain him the s^d Mr Bird upon an assessment. That your Petitioners look upon themselves to be under great difficultys at present and that they shall be still under greater if the Said Votes are allowed and held to be lawfull valid and binding—Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray your Excellency & Honours that they may have a hearing on the Premises and that in the mean time the said Town of Dunstable may be ordered and enjoined not to do or act any thing farther in Consequence of the said Votes And that your Excellency and Honours will make and declare the said Meetings & the Votes afores^d to be illegal null and void or grant your Petitioners Such other Reliefs as you shall see meet and reasonable and your Petitioners As in Duty bound Shall ever Pray &c

JOSEPH FRENCH for himself
and Behalf of the other Petitioners

Nov. 21st 1747

In Council Nov 21. 1747 read &
ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Province of)
New Hamp) In the House of Representatives 21st Nov. 1747

Voted That y^e Petitioners be heard on this Petition y^e Second Day of y^e Setting of y^e Gen^l Assen^y after the first of Jun^r next & that the Petitioners at their own Cost s^rring y^e adverse Party with a Copy of this Petition & this order of Court that they may have Liberty to shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer of y^e Petition should not be granted

D. Pierce Clr.

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurred

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

Nov. 21. Consented to
B. WENTWORTH.

Prov of)
New Hamp) In the House of Representatives 9th March 1747-8.

Voted That the farther Hearing of y^e annexed Petition be deferred 'til y^e Second Day of y^e Sitting of y^e Gen^l Assen^y after y^e tenth of April next

D. Pierce Clr.

In Council March 10th 1747-8.

read & Concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

Province of) In the House of Representatives 13th May 1748
New Hamp)

Voted that the Prayer of y^e annexed Petition be granted & that y^e meetings & v^o Votes mention'd in s^d Petition be & hereby are declared illegal null & void

D. Pierce Clr.

In Council May 14th 1748

the above Vote of the House read & Concurred.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

In Council May 17, 1748.

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH

[It is uncertain to what paper or petition the following names belong. They seem to stand alone. Ed.]

Joseph Blanchard	Gideon Honey
Jonathan French	John Honey
Joseph French	Silvanus Whittney
Tho ^s Patch	Elnahan Blood
Isaac Beauchamp by his son or At-	John Willowbe tenant to Joseph
torney	Farley
John Beauchamp	Phillip Clerick
Henry Adams	John Butterfield
Daniel Searls	Benj ^a French
Joseph Butterfield	David Hubbard
W ^m Lund	Simeon Blood
Tho ^s Blanchard	Amos Phillips
Ephraim Adams	Jason Russell
John Lovewell Jun ^r	Benj ^a Parker
Sam ^l Searles	Gershom Hubbard
Joseph Farley	Josiah Swan
Jonathan Bowers	Zacheus Lovewell
Jonathan Combs	Tho ^s Adams—Attorney to Judith
Phinehas Lunde	Adams

Nottingham West March y^e 31st 1748
this may Certifie that Joseph Blanchard Esq^r was sworn to the faith-
full Discharge of the office of Town Clerk and assessor in the town of
Dunstable for the Current year before me

Ezekiel Chase J. P.

Minutes of Town Meeting in Dunstable March 30th 1748.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants Qualified to vote in the Choice of

Town Officers in the Town of Dunstable in the Province of New Hamp^{re} being Regularly Assembled at the House of Jonathan Lovewell in said Dunstable y^e 30th day of March 1748 in order to make Choice of Town Officers.

Voted and chose Jonathan Lovewell moderator of said meeting

Voted and Chose Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk.

Voted and chose Jonathan Lovewell William Lancey Thomas Harwood Noah Johnson & Jonathan Lund Selectmen.

voted that the said Selectmen be assessors.

voted and chose Ephraim Lund Constable.

voted and chose Josiah Butterfield & Sam^l Kenney tithing men.

voted and chose John Searls & William Lancey Jun. surveyors of high way.

voted and chose John McClenche & Thomas Murdough Field drivers.

voted and chose John Huston & Sampson French fence vewers.

voted and Chose Benj^t Richardson William Alld & Benj^t French Hog constables.

a True Copy from Record of the whole of said meeting respecting Town officers Exam^d

att^r Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk

This Certifies that we the Subscribers Inhabitants & Qualified voters in the Town of Dunstable voted in the Choice of the above said officers the day above said

Jonathan Lovewell

William Lancey

Thomas Lund

Ephraim Lund

John Alld

John Huston

Samuel Whiting

Noah Johnson

Benjamin Richardson

Henry Parker

Thomas Harwood

Sampson French

Jonathan Lund

Josiah Butterfield

John McCleache

John Searle's mark X

William Lancey Jun.

Thomas Cowen

William Johnson's mark X

William Alld.

we the Subscribers certifie that Nehemiah Lovewell was present & voted in the above said meeting but being out of Town when the others Subscribed this paper had not opportunity to Subscribe.

Jonathan Lovewell

John Alld

Province of)
New Hamp.)

This Certifies that the Inhabitants that ware Qualified to vote in the Choice of Town officers in the Town of Dunstable in said Province being Regularly Assembled for that purpos the 30th day of March 1748 did Chose the Persons here after mentioned in to the respective offices as is here after Expressed.

Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk.

Jonathan Lovewell, William Lancey, Thomas Harwood, Noah Johnson & Jonathan Lund Selectmen.

voted that said Selectmen be assessors.

Ephraim Lund Constable.

Josiah Butterfield & Sam^l Kenney Tithing men.

John Searls & William Lancy Jun^r Serveyors of highways.

John McClenche & Tho^s Murdough Field drivers.

John Huston Sampson French Fence vewers.

Benj^t Richardson William Alld & Benj^t French Hog Constables.

Att^r Jonathan Lovewell Town Clerk.

Province of)
New Hamp. }

Nottingham March ye 31st 1748

the afore said Jonathan Lovewell and Thomas Harwood were Sworne to the faithfull discharg of their Respective offices where they were chose as above before me

Ezekiel Chase J^s Pais

Prov of)
New Hamp. }

Nottingham West april ye 2. 1748

The aforesaid William Lancey Noah Johnson Jonathan Lund Josiah Butterfield Sam^l Kenney John McClenche Tho^s Murdough John Huston & Benj^s Richardson were sworn to the faithfull discharge of their Respective offices where to they were Chose as above, before me,

Ezekiel Chase Js. Pais

Province of)
New Hamp. }

Nottingham April ye 18th 1748.

Jon^a Lovewell of Dunstable in said Province was Sworn to the faithfull discharge of the office of Sealer of all weights and measures in the said Town of Dunstable where he was Chosen.

before me Ezek^l Chase J^s Pais

John Phelps and others' assent to Jo^s Blanchard's petition.

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants and Freeholders of the town of Dunstable do hereby Signifie that we are not for the Settling M^r Sam^l Bird as minister of this town & should if Opportunity had permitted Joyned with Jo^s Blanchard Esq^r & Others in Petitioning the Gen^l Assembly for making null & void the vote Whereby he was Pretended to be Chose and are Still desirous that the Same may be done

Dunstable May 3^d 1748

Jonathan Phelps
John Honey
Jonathⁿ Bowers
William Cuming
John Phelps.

Remonstrance.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governour &c
The Hon. his majestys Council & House of Representatives
in Gen^l Court assembled at Portsmouth May y^e 19th 1748

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable would Most Humbly Remonstrate

That Inasmuch as a Representation of our Circumstances has bin made to this Hon. Court Relating our Last March meeting for the Choice of Town Officers, on the 30th of said month by Joseph Blanchard Esq^r praying that the choice made by the majority of Voters mentioned might ——— the Town officers by them Chosen be Confirmed or the whole proceeding nullified & a new meeting Called &c

That we are in necessity for Redress in those things and in

as much as the Choice of officers made by the said Thirty Six Whereof Major Zachæus Lovewell was Chosen Moderator & the s^d Joseph Blanchard Town Clerk Were agreeable to the Town in Gen^l & in which choice two thirds at least of the freeholders & Inhabitants in s^d town of any profitable Estates or such as had bin Costomary to Rise did vote in the affirmative. and should a new meeting be called We Imagine it would be only to chiose the same persons over again that the Scarcity of Laborers and the Season of the year so much Demand our attention to our business, our Habitations are so scattered that Warning and holding such meeting at this Season would be very Chargeable.

That if it might be the pleasure of this Hon. Court to establish and Confirm the s^d officers it would free us from these as we apprehend unnecessary Charges, & Quallify us Immediately to do anything necessary for the Publick affairs of s^d Town Which is very Humbly Desired &c

Joseph Butterfield
Henry Adams
Jonathⁿ Bowers
Ephraim Butterfield
Benjamin Davis
Gershom Hobart
Elnathan Blood
Thomas Patch
David Hobart
his

Joseph \times Farly
Mark
Amos Phillips
John Willoughby
Benjⁿ Parker
John Phelps
John Butterfield
James Harwood
Thomas Blanchard
William Lund
Isaac Waldron
John Beauchamp
—————?
John Combs

Josiah Swan
Benjamin French
Joseph French
Zachæus Lovewell
Phineas Lund
his
Thomas \times Blanchard Jr.
mark
his
Joseph \times Swallow
mark
Jason Russell
Simeon Blood
William Cumings
his
Samuel \times Sarls
mark
Sylvenus Whitney
Thomas Adams
Gideon Honey
Ephraim Adams
Jonathan French
Jonathan Combs
Daniel Searles

Petition of Jon^a Lovewell in answer to Joseph Blanchard's petition.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. Gen^l & Governour in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire & the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council & House of Representatives for y^e Province in Gen^l Assembly Convened May 10th 1748

Jonathan Lovewell of Dunstable in said Province for him-

self and other freeholders and Inhabitants of Said Town in answer to a Petition of Joseph Blanchard Esq^r for himself & others (now lying before this Hon^{ble} Court) Humbly Shew—

That in Said Petition is Shewn forth that y^r Selectmen of Dunstable by their Warr^t cal'd a Town meeting in Dunstable to be of Persons Qualifyed to vote on y^e 30th day of March last for y^r Choice of Town officers for y^e Current year that y^e Inhabitants Met accordingly and after some Debate about y^e Qualifications of Voters they proceeded to y^e Business & that 53 Men assembled who were Qualifyed according to y^e Laws by which they had heretofore been Govern'd who divided into two parties 36 in one & 17 in y^e other that each party chose a Moderator Select men & all other Town officers—a Double set chosen and Sworn for every office—the evident Consequence of which is the utmost confusion &c

By this state of y^r Case in their Petition they Grant y^e authority of the Selectmen to call the Meeting but don't mention who Govern'd the Parties Mentioned who took their Votes & Determin'd y^r Choice or whether there was any officer to Enter & record y^r votes or show how the meeting was managed—representing y^e case as if one party had as good right to act as y^e other in any manner when the truth of the matter is That the Petitioners in a very Disorderly uncivil manner took y^e Selectmens warrant from them and went out of y^e house appointed by y^e Selectmen to hold y^e meeting in and Gathered a Party together some qualified Voters & Some not so and acted like a mobb of madmen in such a manner as never was done in this Province Since it was a Government—the Selectmen all the while proceed to take votes at the time & place appointed to hold y^e Meeting when & where a Moderator was the Voters present orderly chosen & y^e business of y^e Town orderly caried on all town officers chosen & duly Entered by y^e clerks Duly Sworn as y^e Laws & custom of all Towns in y^e Government have time out of mind used—which officers your respondents conceive to be y^e officers regularly chosen for y^e Town & that they ought to Serve in their respective offices—The Petitioners Knew that what they had done was Disorderly yet they did the same with Design to Disturb y^e peace & good order of the Town for if they were y^e Major part of y^e voters Qualifyed they might have chosen who they liked best into offices without Snatching up y^e warrant and runing out of doors & holding a meeting abroad in the fields where they were not cal'd by their warrant to hold it the necessity of having officers regularly chosen is evident but the question is whether these Petitioners have right to Complain of y^e Proceedings of y^e Town in General when they themselves & no others have made all y^e Disturbance & Disorders they mention in *their* Complaint.

They further say in their Petition that their circumstances are Particular that they were lately Incorporated can have no Customs to Govern their Proceedings in such cases—and that y^e Province Law is Defective & does not say what Estate is ratable therefore Intirely useless That every man has an equal Right to Govern in Town meeting till moderator is fairly chosen y^e Law silent about it & that they must Labor under insuperable Difficulties unless aided by the assembly or y^e Standing Laws amended & so they pray that their own partys choice (which they call y^e major part but was not nearly so) may be Established or that those Votes which were Lawfully passed may be made null as well as theirs

In answer to which y^e respondents say that the Petitioners lately Incorporated having no Customs to Govern Begin with very bad precedents to make Customary that any man may Set himself up to Govern in town meeting against y^e authority that caled y^e same It is such a Practice as was never known in this Government nor in any of the neighboring Governments all y^e towias in this Province have always made that their Practice that y^e Selectmen who call y^e meeting Govern y^e same till a moderator is chosen they take the Votes & declare who is chosen moderator & then y^e moderator takes his place and Governs That there is Defect in y^e Laws of y^e Province & that y^e Laws are useless is a bold and Daring affront to y^e Government for that in all & every town of y^e Province the Laws have been understood & all the towns have been Quietly & regularly ordered & Governed and will be so still notwithstanding y^e Disorderly Practice of The complainants who have violated the Laws & Good customs of y^e Towns in all y^e Governments & to cover their Riotous & bad behaviour complain that there is no Law to Govern them.

At a Legal meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable on the 15th Day of April A. D. 1774

Voted that Jonathan Lovewell Esq^r be agent for the Town of Dunstable to Petition those that are in proper authority that the s^d Town of Dunstable may have the Priviledge of Sending a Person to Represent them in the General assembly of this Province

A true Copy attest

Jo^t Whiting Town Clerk

Dunstable may y^e 6th 1774

Dunstable Petition to send a Representative.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General Governor and Comander in chief in and over his majesties Province of New Hamp. & the Hon^{ble} his majesties Council.

The Petition of Jonathan Lovewell of Dunstable in County

of Hillsborough and Province afore said on Behalf of the Freeholders of said Town of Dunstable in their Town meeting assembled ap^r y^e 18th 1774 pursuant to their vote for this Purpose

Humbly Shews That the said Town of Dunstable is a very ancient Settlement and so long ago as the year 1680 there was Thirty Families settled there and a learned orthodox minister ordained amongst them—

That the Inhabitants wer repeatedly distressed by a Barbarous Indian Enemy and with great Difficulty kept Possession of the Ground. That they were then under the Jurisdiction of the Province of the Mass^t Bay and for very many years were priviledged by that Province to send a Person to represent them in the General assembly anually Convened at Boston untill the Divisionall line between said Province took place.

That in the year 1746 the said Town of Dunstable falling within this Province the Inhabitants of said Town wer by His majesty's Letters Patent under the seal of this Province Incorporated in to a Body Politic and Corporate to have continuance forever by the name of Dunstable with all the Powers & authorities Priviledges & Franchises which other Towns in said Province or any of them by Law then had or enjoyed and to their Successors forever.

That for several years since the said Town of Dunstable enjoyed the Priviledge of voting for a Person to Represent them in the General Assembly for this Province

That for about Twelve years last past the Freeholders of said Town have for reasons to them unknown been Excluded from their ancient Priviledge altho they are not only conscious of their Loyalty and attachment to His Majesty King George the Third and all in authority under him and determined on every occasion to Testify their Duty.

Wherefore your Petitioner on Behalf of the aforesaid Freeholders of Dunstable and in vertue of the vote aforesaid Most Humbly Prays your Excellency and Hon^{rs} that they may be restored to their ancient Priviledges and be properly represented in Future and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray

JONATHAN LOVEWELL.

May y^e 10th 1774

Papers

relating to the annexation of the West part of Dunstable (now Nashua)
to the Town of Hollis:

Containing

Petition of the Inhabitants of the West part of Dunstable,
Remonstrance of the Selectmen of Dunstable,
Answer of the Agents of Dunstable,
Plan of the territory to be disannexed (1)
Warrant for a Town Meeting in Dunstable.
Proceedings of said Town meeting.
Extracts from the Records of Dunstable.

1756 and 1757.

*Petition of People in the West part of Dunstable (now part
of Hollis) to be annexed to Hollis.*

Province of)
New Hampshire)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and
the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council

The Petition of a number of the Inhabitants in the westerly
Side of The Town of Dunstable in said Province and the Town
of Hollis Joyning with them Humbly sheweth,

That your Petitioners that live in Dunstable live in the west
side of the Town next to Hollis and are so far from the meet-
ing House that it is all most Empossible for us to attend the
publick worship of God there for some of us live seven and a
half miles and the nearest five and half from the Meeting House
so that we Cant nor Dont go to meeting there and we receive
no priviledges with them for they have sot the Meeting House
to accomodate them Selves and seem not in the lest to Regard
us only to get our money our Difficulties are so exceeding great
that make us Dispare of haveing any Comfortable Recving
gospels Previiledges unless we can obtain the aid and Assis-
tance of your Excellency and Honnors

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly pray that your Ex-
cellency and Honnors Would so far Compassonate our Cir-
cumstances as to Relieve us in the Premises by seting us of with
our Land to Hollis to which we once belong'd and help settel
our Minister and now go to attend the publick worship of god
and must if we are Continued as we be the furdest of us from
Holles Meeting House is not more than three Miles and a half
or four miles and the biggest part about two miles and a half
and three miles to the which we can go with some degree of
Comfort Wee therefore pray that your Excelency and Honors
would be plesed to annex us to Hollis with about 2500 acres

(1) The Plan is found in the original MS. Papers Vol. II. p. 297, in secretary's of
file, but omitted in this volume. Ed.

of Land as we have Discrebd in a plan Which will gratly Re-
 leve us from our present Difficulties and help us to a Comfort-
 able Injoyment of gospel prevelidges

Wee your Humble Petitioners therefore pray that your Ex-
 cellency and Hon^{rs} would Releve us as in your great Wisdom
 Shall Seem Meet and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall
 ever pray.

John Willoughby
 Elnathan Blood
 John Phelps
 Daniel Mooar
 Benj^a Parker
 Nicholas Youngman
 Gershoni Hobart
 Jonathan Hobart
 Amos Phillips
 Sam^l Hobart
 David Hobart
 Nehemiah Woods

William Cumings
 Joseph Farley
 Anna Patch

SAM^l CUMINGS } Selectmen
 SAM^l GOODHUE } of
 ENOCH NOYES } Holles

In Council December 16. 1756

read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Secr^y

Province of)
 New Hamp) In the house of Representatives Dec 16th 1756

This Petition being read

Ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon, the third Day of the
 Sitting of the General Assembly next after the 15th day of Jan^y next
 Ensuing & that the Petitioners at their own Cost & charge Cause the
 Select men of Dunstable to be Served with a Copy of s^d Petition & this
 order of Court thereon to appear & Shew Cause if any they have why
 the prayer thereof should not be Granted

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council December 17th 1756.

read & Concurred

Theodore Atkinson.

Province of)
 New Hamp) In the house of Representatives Jan 21st 1757

This being the day appointed to hear the within Petition and the
 Select men of Dunstable by their Petition to the General Assembly of
 the 14th Instant desiring that the hearing thereof might be put off to a
 further Day for the Reasons in s^d Petition mentioned & the petitioners
 making no objection

Resolved that the hearing thereof be put off till the 2^d Day of the Sit-
 ting of the General Assembly next after the first Day of April next &
 all persons Concerned are hereby Required to Govern themselves ac-
 cordingly

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

Province of)
 New Hamp) In the House of Representatives May 18th 1757

William Cumings Representing to this house that he was not duly
 Notified of the time appointed for the hearing this Petition & praying
 that further time may be appointed for a hearing thereof Therefore

Voted that the Petitioners be heard thereon the Second day of the

Sitting of the General Assembly Next after the 20th day of June next & that the petitioners Serve the Selectmen of Dunstable with a Copy of this order of Court

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & concurred

Theo. Atkinson Secy.

Petition relating to another hearing.

Province of }
New Hamp }

To His Ex^{ty} B. Wentworth Esq^r Gov^r &c. The Hon^{ts} his
Maj^{ty} Councill & House of Representatives in Gen^l Assembly
Conveined at Ports^{mouth} &c.

The Remonstrance of the Select^{men} of Dunstable in Answer To
The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of Dunstable and the
Select^{men} of Holles for setting of Certain Lands with the Pet^{rs}
that Belong to Dunstable to the Town of Holles

Humbly Sheweth

That Tho the Order of Court pass'd in Council 17th
of Dec^r Last Directing That the Select^{men} of Dunstable Shou'd
be Served with a Copy of the Pet^r & Order of Court thereon
Notwithstanding the Pet^{rs} have delayed to lett y^r Respond^{ts}
know any thing of Such Pet^r and Order untill the Eleventh
day of this Instant Jan^y and the hearing to be the third day af-
ter the 15th Instant. if the Court Shou'd be then Sitting (the
contrary of which we cou'd not know) The time being so short
the Select^{men} Could not by Lawfull Warning Assemble the
town to know their minds before the time of Hearing which
we Humbly Conceive they ought by no means to be abridged
off.

Wherefore we Humbly pray (that unless Their petiⁿ be with-
drawn or Dismissed without day that there may be a further
day for Hearing thereon. and Inasmuch as 'tis probable if the
town Resolve to appear and make answer there will be Occa-
sion of Sundry Surveys and Measures to be taken, the clerer
to discover the Truth of the facts alledged in their pet^r which
cannot with convenience be done till the Spring & besides the
Hardship it would be for Such a Scattered town to Assemble
Soner than march meeting Since that is so near. & in the mean
time y^r Pet^{rs} can Suffer no great Ill convenience) That the
Hearing may be assigned Some time after the first of may next

Which is Humbly Submitted by y^r Ex^{ty} & Hon^{ts} most
Obed^{nt} Serv^{ts}

J. BLANCHARD	} Select ⁿ of Dunstable
JON ^s LOVEWELL	
JON ^s LUND	

Dunstable Jan^y 14th 1757.

Petition against annexation to Hollis.

To His Excellency B. Wentworth Esq^r Capt. Gen^l Gov^r of the Province of New Hamp^r &c & the Hon^{le} His Majestys Council.

Whereas Sundry Inhabitants of Dunstable & the town of Holles Joyning with them have Petitioned y^r Excellency & Hon^{ty} Praying the s^t Inhabitants that are Petitioners may be with Their Lands Sett to Holles. and afterwards in the same Petition pray that they may be annexed to Holles with about 2500 acres of Land (as they say they Have described in a plan) and further pray for Relief as to you shall seem meet

And shew as the Grounds of their Compl^t their Distance from our meeting house that it was not sett to accommodate them & that seemingly they are Only Regarded to get their money.

Of which the Selectmen of Dunstable had notice by Order of His Majestys Councill & the Hon^{ty} The Assembly to shew cause if any they had Why the prayer Thereof Shou^d not be granted.

Therefore the Subscribers Agents of the Town of Dunstable Begg Leave to answer & Shew

That by the Charter of Incorporation a Reservation is made to his majesty his Heirs & Successors. of the Power of Dividing the same when it shall appear necessary and Convenient for the Benefit of the Inhabitants—accordingly their application was to y^r Ex^{ty} & Hon^{ty}—How that Petition came to drop down to the Lower house. or they order in a Thing they had no Lawfull cognizance of Wee cannot tell—that in the present case nothing can lye before them to Determine and in this answer Shall address our Selves to y^r Ex^{ty} & Hon^{ty} only—

Waving our not being Notefied by Prop^r authority if y^r Ex^{ty} & Hon^{ty} think meet to sustain their Petition Beg Liberty to State the facts & y^r Indulgence to hear them thro^t.

That the town of Dunstable ab^t 1736 was by act of the Mass^{ts} Divided into two Parishes Reserving for the first Or Standing part (being then ab^t to build a meeting house) Such parcell Only as wou^d Continue & not probable to be sub-divided afterwards—The Remainder of what Was then old Dunstable (now Holles monson and part of Merrymac & part of Dunstable.) was made the Second Parish—which then Consisted of ab^t 70000. acres had an annuall tax of two pence an acre for four years On all the Non-residents Lands to Enable them to Build a meeting house ann settle a minister with an after Tax of near the Same Sum Greatly Exceeding the necessary use for which the Grant was Intended. however they disposed or divided the money That the first Parish 1738 Built & finished a Meeting house at a Large expence.

That 1741 the Province line was Run & left of the first parish about two thirds of the Inhabitants & Estates on the Mass^{ts} side.

That 1746 y^r Ex^{ty} with advice of his Majestys Councill appointed a Committee to Enquire into the Situation & Circumstances of this Western Acquisition in Order for its Incorporation into towns

That the Settled part of the Second Parish (since Hollis) was present before that Committee and the dividing line between that town & Dunstable was then fixed. after a full hearing of all partys. Tho Dunstable by that line was a quantity Sufficient for a town. yet the Habitable part so small (not more than five thousand acres. Scarce worth Improving) and that so scattered. viewing their past Burdens & Misfortunes with Great Reluctance took out their Charter—On the South the Province line On the East the Great River On the north the Poverty of the land would make no advantage. by an addition Exclusive of the present Pet^r & they Cheifly on the westerly Side Thus Shut up

Tho Hollis would admit five times the Settlers & Better Land as Their first Entry was at the Easterly end.

Dunstable for their accommodation only Submitted to the line as it now stands when they Ought to have advanced a mile further West at the least.

On examination we find that Hollis on True measure is abt eight miles in length East & west And about four miles & half north & South promiscuously Settled at Each end. Sometime after their Incorporation Hollis set up a meeting house with part of the money we & others had paid for that use & sett it about a mile an half from their East line Regardless of the Compl^{ts} of the Inhabitants & prop^r on the westerly part so that many of them now are eight miles as they must travil from their meeting much further than any of Dunstable are from Our meeting house. Had measures in Equity been taken as was in Dunstable to place their meeting house the present Pet^r would be many miles nearer to ours (& doubtless will soon be the case)

Wee are Sencible that this vexatious Petition is Stirred & encouraged by Hollis purely to prevent Justice to their Western Inhabitants which they foresee will Obtain unless they can Cloack it by Ruining Dunstable.

The Reasons as to Distance & accommodation might much Stronger be urged—Exclusive of the province tax, in favor of the South part of the town.

That the familys in Dunstable able to Support themselves & bear any part of Our charge does not Exceed Forty. the Petitioners Included & should they be Indulged it must end in their disappointment & be fatal to us.

As to their treatment in the town Settling the meeting house Using the money &c we would not trouble you With the Arguments Just in Our favour--Only Refer to the votes we here annex. Demonstrations of their good usage.

Had not the Depth of Snow and bad weather prevented we had shown their fallacious pretences to their distance from each meeting house all the foregoing facts are Ready to verify

What Genius had Given them front to mutter out this Motley Petition is Difficult to Guess.

The pretensions both of Holles & the Pet^{rs} are totally Groundless.

Wherefore we pray that their Petition may be Dismissed

JOSEPH BLANCHARD	} Ag ^{ts} for
ZACHEUS LOVEWELL	
JOSEPH FRENCH.	
	} Dunstable

[Here follows a plan of the land petitioned to be annexed to Hollis, about 2500 acres—which is omitted. Ed.]

Province of) To John Searles One of the Constables of Dunstable
New Hamp) In said Province Greeting.

Seal In his Majestys Name you are hereby Required forthwith To Notify & Warn all the freeholders & Other Inhabitant In said Dunstable Qualified to Vote in the following Town affairs that they Assemble & Meet at the meeting house in Said Dunstable on Monday the 21st Day of March next at one of the clock afternoon.

1st To Chuse all Town Officers for the Ensuing Year Required by Law.

2^d To hear the Town accounts & Do anything Relating the Same as Shall then be agreed on.

3^d To See if the Town Will Do any thing to Shew Cause why the Petition of William Cumings & Others should not be Granted who have Petitioned the General Court to be annexed to Holles & Do any thing Relating the Same as shall then be agreed on

4th To see if the Town Will Do any thing to Prevent the Common Being Over Stocked & act as shall then be agreed on & see that you make Due Return hereof & fail not at your Peril.

Dated at Dunstable February 28th 1757

JOSEPH BLANCHARD	} Selectmen
JON ^s LOVEWELL	
JON ^s LUND	

Province of)
New Hamp)

Pursuant To the Within Warrant I have Notified & Warned all the freeholders & Other Inhabitants Qualified to Vote In the within Town affairs to meet at the Time & Place & for the Occasions as are Within mentioned.

Dunstable March y^e 21st 1757

his
John Searles Constable
mark

Dunstable April y^e 2^d 1757

A true Copy taken from Dunstable town Book pr

Jonathan Lund, Town Clerk

At a Town Meeting of the freeholders & Other Inhabitants In Dunstable Qualified to Vote In Town affairs assembled at the meeting house In Dunstable On Monday the 21st Day of Sept^r 1757

Extract of the Votes

The Question Was Put if the Town of Dunstable Would set off the Inhabitants & Land as Petitioned for by William Cumings & Others to be annexed to Holles or any Part thereof & Voted In the Negative

then Voted that Joseph Blanchard & Zacheus Lovewell Esqrs. & Cap^t Joseph French be agents In the Behalf of the Town of Dunstable Joyntly or Severally or any two of them to Shew Cause Why the Prayer of the aforesaid Petition should not be Granted

A True Copy pr. Jonathan Lund town clerk

Dunstable April 2^d 1757

A True Copy Taken from Dunstable Town Book pr

Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

Choice of agents March 21st 1757

At a meeting of the Freeholders & Other Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable Regularly assembled at the house of Thomas Harwood In Dunstable the 5th Day of March 1754

Extracts of the Votes

Voted that all the Inhabitants on the Place Called One Pine Hill viz: those to the West of Sampson Frenches & John Butterfield making a strait Line be excused from all charges In fitting Raising & finishing the old meeting house.

Dunstable april y^e 2^d 1757

A true Copy taken from Dunstable town Book

Pr. Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable held at the house of M^r Jonathan French On the 24th Day of July 1749 Lawfully Warned for the following Purposes

Extract of the Votes

Also voted To hire a School for Eight months & that three months part thereof be Improved the North side Nashua River In two places. One the Most Convenient place at One pine Hill & that two months be Kept In the middle of the Inhabitants Between Nashua River & the Province Line & that the Other three months be kept the One half at the South End & One half at the North End to be Determined by the Committee to be Chosen the Most Convenient Places for that Purpose

Dunstable April y^r 2^d 1757

A true Copy taken from Dunstable town Book.

Pr Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

N. B. Y^e Petitioners Live at a place called One pine hill

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable Assembled on Wednesday the 30th Day of April 1746

Extract of the Votes of said meeting

Also Voted that the Inhabitants that by the Charter Was Incorporated With this Town of Dunstable Who Was by any Other Act or Law While Under the Jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Government Incorporated With any Other Town or Parish & have Continued to Pay Rates to the Respective Ministers of those Places be & hereby are Voted and Excused from the Tax or Rates Due to M^r Swan to Compleat his Salary Down to the Last Day of March Last

Dunstable April y^e 2^d 1757

A true Coppy taken from Dunstable town Books

Pr. Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable assembled according to Law on Monday the Second Day of March 1746-7

Extract of the Votes of Said Meeting.

Whereas it has been proposed by the Inhabitants of this Town of Dunstable at Several Town Meetings to agree upon a Place Where to Erect a Meeting house for the Public Worship of God In this Town & no place being agreed upon & it Being Necessary that a place Should be fixed or agreed upon for Said Use & to Prevent the Charge of a Courts Committee in Settling the Same & that the Same May be Don Just & Equal it is Proposed that a Committee of three Judicious men hereafter to be Named be chosen (Belonging to some Other Town or Towns) & that they be fully Impowered to meet & agree upon or fix a Certain place for Erecting a Meeting house In this Town of Dunstable & that they View the Land in Settling the Same & that the Said Committee or the Maj^r Part of them Certify to the Clerk of this Town In Writing by them Signed) the Place they Shall agree upon or fix for Said use & that In their Judgment it is a place that is Just & Equal & Will Best accomodate the Inhabitants of this Town of Dunstable & the Clerk is hereby Ordered to Record the Same Which Being Done shall be & Remain the Place for Building a Meeting house In this Town for the use aforesaid if the Land Can be had for the Same & that the Select men Desire Said Committee to Meet In this Town & agree upon a Place as aforesaid upon the Cost & Charge of this Town—

Voted In the affirmative

Dunstable April y^e 2^d 1757

A true Coppy taken from Dunstable town Book

Pr. Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

Province of New Hampshire

We the Subscribers Being Chosen a Committee By the Town of Dunstable In said Province at their Meeting the 2^d Day of March 1746-7 to fix & agree upon a place to Erect a house for the Public Worship of God In Said Dunstable according to the Directions in said Vote given us having Viewed the Land & hearing all Parties fully thereon So far as they See Cause have fixed & agreed That the Place for Build^g the said house on be & hereby is stated (as In our Judgments most Just & Reasonable to be all Circumstances Considered) By the high Way on the Easterly Side thereof about four Rods from said Way at a small Pine Marked against Mr Samuel Whittings New field (so called) Near the Place Where the Road Comes from Phineas Lunds.

as Witness our hands this 23^d Day of May 1747

Joseph Fitch
John Chamberlain
Robert Fletcher

A true Copy Attes

Jon^a Lovewell Town Clerk

Dunstable April y^e 2^d 1757 A true Coppy taken from Dunstable town Book pr. Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dunstable In the Province of New Hamp^r Being Regularly Assembled at the house of Mr Thomas Harwood the 21st Day of December 1753

Then Voted the Place Whereon to set up a house for Public Worship

on Lords Day be at the Crotch of the Roads as Near as Can be With Convenience (Near the house where Jon Lovewell Now Dwells) Voted that the old Meeting house be Took Down Moved & Set up on the Place this night Voted for that Purpose & that the Same be forthwith Done & that the Hon^{le} Joseph Blanchard Esq^r Zacheus Lovewell Thomas Harwood Joseph French John Butterfield Jonathan Lund Ephraim Adams Jon^s Lovewell & amasa Parker be a Committee to Effect the Same & that the Necessary Charges be paid by this Town

Dunstable April y^r 2^d yr 1757

a true Cop^y taken from Dunstable town Book

Pr^y Jonathan Lund Town Clerk

Then Voted that Joseph Fitch of Bedford Capt. William Laurance Esq^r of Groton & Capt. John Chamberlain of Souhegan East be the Committee to settle the Meeting house Place as afores^d & that they make Report Within three Months

Voted that Capt. Rob^t Fletcher be Chosen to Serve In the afores^d Com^{tee} in Case Either fail

Dunstable April 2^d 1757

A Copy Taken from Dunstable Town Book

[Here follows a plan of Pine Hill on the west part of Dunstable, which is omitted. Ed.]

DURHAM.

[This town was originally part of Dover, and long had the name of Oyster-River. It was incorporated during the administration of Gov. Belcher, 15 May, 1732. Ed.]

Petition for Incorporation as a Town.

To the Hon^{le} John Usher Esq^r Lev^t Govern^r Comand^r in Chief of his Majes^{ties} Province of New Hampshire and to the Hon^{le} the Council.

Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of Oyster River Humbly Petition and Pray

That whereas, his Moste Sacred Majesty King William has been pleased through his grace and favor to grant unto yo^r Hon^{ty} by his Royall Commission with y^e Councill full Powers and authorities to Erect and Establish Towns within his Majes^{ties} Province and whereas now y^e Petitioners have by divine providence settled and Inhabited that Part in this his Majes^{ties} Province Comonly Called Oyster River and have found that by the scituation of the place as to Distauce from Dover or Exeter butt more Especially Dover now being forced to wander through the Woods to y^e place to meet to and for y^e management of our affaires are much Disadvantaged for y^e Present in our Business and Estates and hindered of adding a Town and People for the Hon^r of his Majesty in the Inlargement and In-

creas of his Province Wee humbly Supplicate that yo^r Hon^{rs} would take itt to yo^r Consideration and grant that we may have a Township confirmed by your honours which we humbly offer the bound Thereof may Extend as followeth. To begin at the head of Rialls his cove and so to run upon a North west line seven Miles and from thence with Dover line Parrelell untill we meet with Exeter line that yo^r Hon^r would be pleased to Grant this Petition which will not only be a great benefit Both to the Settlement of our Ministry The Population of the place the Ease of the Subject and the strengthening and advantaging of his majest^y Province butt an Engagement for yo^r Petitioners Ever to pray for the Safety & Increase of yo^r Hon^{rs} and Prosperity

John Smith
Joseph Jones
James x Bunker Sen.
John Williams
Thomas Williams
William Willyoums
Henry Vines ?
Nathaniell Meder
John Meder Sener
John Meder Jr
William Easter x his mark
James x his mark
Philip Dudv. x his mark
Demeret x his mark
Joseph Jengens x his mark
James Bonker x his mark
James ——— ?
——— ?
Joseph Meder
Joseph Smith
Edward Wakeham
Thomas Wille
Thomas Chesley
Philip Chesley Sen
Francis Pittman
Thomas Chesley Jr.

George Chesley
William Jackson
Joseph Bunker
John Woodman
Stephen Jones
——— ? Davis x mark
Samson Doe
John Doe
Jeremiah Cromen
James x Durgin mark
Willioun x Durgin ma:
Elias Critchett
Phillup Cromel - mark
John Cromel
Jeremiah Burnnum
John Smith
Thomas Bickford
John Meder
Francis Mathes
Henry Nock
John Willy x mark
Thomas Edgerly
John Edgerly
Edward x Lethers his mark
Henry Mash
William x Durgin his mark

Ecclesiastical document relating to Durham, 1723.

Rev^d Hon^{rs} & beloved.

understanding Col. Davis & his wife are ab^t to Joyn in full comⁿ wth yo^r church this is y^e by virtue of y^e communion of churches to enter my objection ag^t y^e for scandalous crimes untill their publick confession & reformation

I^t crime ag^t him is his hipocrisy in pretending he could not wth our church on acc^t of Capt. Jones who (as he said) had taken a false oath ab^t Capt. Hills land at y^e falls wth Jos

meader also when he Considered not the beam in his own eye relating to another oath he himself took concerning Wheelwrights pond

2^d crime is his Sacrilegious fraud in his being The ring leader of the point peoples first raise of my first years salary retaining 16 pound thereof now almost sixteen years

3^d crime is his Sacrilegious covetousness of the parsonage land for his son Daniel acting thereby like Ahab coveting & forceable entry upon Naboths Vineyard

4th his late wresting the Law of this Province in his partial Spite ag^t his own legal minister for so innocently playing at nine pins at a house no ways license for a Tavern & also for reproaching & defaming s^d minister as being in drink or disguised there^{with} besides his the s^d Jas. Davis being so desperately & notoriously wise in his own conceit his pretending to have so much religious discourse in his mouth & yet live so long (40 years) in hatred unto contempt of & stand neuter from our crucified Saviour & his honouring his sons & his wife also above the Lord of Heaven by his hearkeing to them more & rather than to him 1 sam^l 2:29

in the second place ag^t her the s^d Elizabeth his wife.

1st crime is her railing ag^t the s^d minister publicly at the church meeting in the meeting house by saying that the s^d minister told a lie in the pulpit ab^t Sobriety Thomas &c

2 crime is her profane mockery at christ's ordinance of a church meeting for discipline by her saying in a way of derision theres going to be another caball now i e a horse racing from caballas the starey constellation or else a secret council for some mystery of iniquity

3^d crime is her being disorderly as a busy body at every one of her husbands Courts to be his advisor or intermedler in his passing judg^{mt} in any case as if he sh^d regard her more than his oath the Law or evidence if these criminals will have these crimes to be proved at any church meeting to hear the Same w^h y^e reverend pastor Mr. Jona Cushing may please to appoint. Then as the Hon^{ble} Col. Richard Waldron Esq. is one of the members of yo^r Church in full comunion & a chief Justice of peace for the Province as a Subject I desire but as an ambassad for Christ I demand of his Hon^r aforesaid a blank summons & notification seasonably as a complain^t to summons evidence for the confirmation of y^e premises as witnesses [two Hebrew words] (1) Pastor.

the woman's 4th crime is her so evidently insnaring her son Thomas into so many denials of any such concern^t wth Sobriety Thomas in all that Scandalous business. For which *cum multis aliis* &c as baptized Children of the covenant by their

(1)st This was undoubtedly written by Rev. Hugh Adams, of Ducham. See Prov. Pap. Vol. IV. and V., "Adams," Ed.

prop^r minister they are both of y^e laid under y^e Censure of his pastoral rejection as unbaptized heathen man & woman as Warranted by the law of christ in Titus 3:10 1 Tim^e 1:20 Titus 2:15 Math 16:19 Mal 2:7 1 Sam^l 15:23 Math 3:10. Acts 8:13: 21:23 untill thir publick Confession & amendm^t of life —concerning whom therefore I must suppose in charity for yo^r church by the receiving such among you w^l not dare to transgresse these written orders in the Apostolick Law of Christ 1 Cor. 5:11 & Sundry other Scriptures.

Petition of sundry aggrieved inhabitants of Oyster River.

To the Honorable John Wentworth Esq^r Lieu^t Govenor and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ty} Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honorable his Maj^{ty} Council and Representatives for said province.

The Humble Petition of Sundry aggrieved Inhabitantce of the parish of Oyster River Most humbly Sheweth Whereas we the Subscribers In Habitantce of said parish Have allways been Constant hearers and Paid our Rats to the Minister of said Parish as by the Rait List of assessment Will make appear and Likewise Sundry of us have Been at a Consederabel Charge in Bulding a Meating House in said parish it being Nier and more Convenent for us to attend upon the Publick Worship of God at Oyster River Meeting House then at Cochecho Meeting House which is a great way further for us to go tho Never the Less as we understand we are in Danger of Being Excluded from our said Priviledges by such an Unequal Line of Boundary between the parish of Oyster River and Cochecho which if being so stated will be Greatly to the Damage of yo^r Petitionors.

We do therefore Humbly Crave Liberty of the More Mature and Superior Judgment of your honours in the General Assembly praying yor honours to take it in Consideration that there may be a more Equael Line of Bound'ry Set so that yo^r aggrieved petitionars may not be under such Grate hard ships, and yor petitionors shall ever pray,

JOSEPH JONES in behalf of the
Rest whose names are to be given in

Joseph Daniel
William Broun
James Jackson
Thomas Lethers
John Tasker
Samuel Chasley
Joshua Chasley

Zachrah Edgeley
William Glines
Samuel Daves
Joseph Hicks
James Busell
Morres Foulter
John Busell

Joseph Parkins
 Thomas Bickford
 Ralph Horll
 Samuall Parkins
 Joseph Jones Jun^r
 Benj. Jones
 John Jones
 John Rand
 John Remiss
 Timothy Moses
 Thomas ———?
 Samuel Chesle
 John Allan

Eli Demerett
 William Demerett
 John Demerett
 John Huckins
 Job Demerett
 Derry Pitman
 Thomas Willey Jun.
 Joseph Daniel the third
 Noel Crose
 John Daniel
 Benjamin Evens
 Harvey Buswell
 William Buswell

Dec. 10, 1729.

*Petition of Francis Mathes and others for a new parish in
 Durham.*

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Governor and Com-
 mander In Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New
 Hampshire in New England. the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Coun-
 cil and House of Representatives for said Province In Gen-
 eral Court Convened Jany. 31st 1739

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town of
 Durham in Said Province Humbly Shews.

That the Inhabitants of the Said Town are divided Into two
 parties Respecting their Ecclesiastical affairs, the One such as
 adhere to the Reverend M^r Hugh Adams the late Minister of
 the Said Town & who Continues so to the said party, the other
 (who are much the Greater) are such as have Oppos'd his
 Standing in that Relation to them. & still Continue so to do.
 That notwithstanding it was the opinion & Result of the late
 Ecclesiastical Council held there that it would not be Expedi-
 ent for him to be any Longer the Minister of the said Town
 yet considering his former Services his advanced years and the
 unhappy Circumstances of himself & Family they Earnestly
 Recommended and press'd it upon the said Inhabitants that
 they should Liberally make Provision for his Support during
 the Stay of himself & Family among them—which is what
 would be highly agreeable to your Petitioners

That altho Several propositions have been made touching
 that matter yet nothing has been agreed on nor any care taken
 to Secure the performance thereof in the manner Recommended
 as aforesaid.

That your Petitioners apprehend it would be a great Inde-
 cency if he who was once & so long the Minister of the said
 Town should have no other provision made for his Support
 than what the Law Provides for one of the poor of the Town

and that he should be Reduced to a Necessity of Depending upon such a Subsistence

That your Petitioners are desirous Still to Sit under his Ministry and are willing to support him & his Family Suitable to his character & Station among them, and conceive that his being Comfortably Supported would have a good Tendency & be the Means of making peace in the Town (respecting Ecclesiastical matters) and would keep all parties quiet & Easy. But your Petitioners however willing are not of ability to afford such Support while they are Subject to & pay towards the Maintenance of another Minister, in the Town.

Wherefore they most Humbly pray that they with Such others of the Said Town as will associate with them (not Exceeding the one half) may be Exempted from paying toward the Support of any other Minister & May be discharged from all charges of that nature laid on them by Law by their Opponents from the time of the afore-said Result and may be Incorporated as a Parish during the Life of the Said M^r Adams in order to Maintain him & his Family & to Enjoy the Benefit of his Ministry.

Or that the Town in General may be Obligated to afford him a Comfortable Subsistence during his abode there Or that Such other Method may be pursu'd as this Hon^{ble} Court in their Great Wisdom & goodness Shall think proper for the peace of the Town & the Ease of that aged Gentleman—and your petitioners as In duty bound Shall ever pray &c.

Francis Mathes
Thomas Footman
Thomas Drew
Joseph Wheeler
William Lord
John Edgerly
Stephen Wille
Joseph Stevenson
John Footman
Joseph Footman
Benjamin Pender
John Durgen
Benjamin Durgen
Benjamin Pinder Junr.
Frances Durgen
Joseph Drew
John Kant
Moses Edgerly
John Kant Junr.
John Drewe
Benjamin Benet
James Durgain Junr.
William Durgain
James Durgain
Will^m Durgain Junr.
Joseph Durgain

Towerthey Durgain
Joshua Durgain
Hazeiah Marsh
Joseph Duda
Joseph Duda Junr.
Benmor Duda
John Cromut
Phillip Cromut
David Davis
Jacob Tash
Isacc Mason
Nathanael Watson
Nathaniel Frost
John Smart
John Mason
Benjamin Burdet
Pumfret Whitehouse
Vallitin Hill
Sam^l Adams
Sam^l Willey
Joseph Bickford
Abraham Banneck
Benjamin Banneck
Jonathan Durgain
William Wormwood
Joseph Edgerly

Thomas Bickford
Abraham Stevenson
John Bickford

William Accason
Joseph Edgely

February the 15th 1739-40. In the house of Representatives.
The within Petition read and Voted the Petition be dismissed.

James Jeffry Cler. Ass^m

In Count feb 21st 1739-40

Read and the Question put whether the Council Concurr'd with the representatives vote.

four voted yea & four nay wth were all that were present.

R. Waldron Sec^r

Durham July y^e 24th 1740

A list of Names of all the Soldiery that Is under my Comand from Sixteen years old and upward as the Law Directs.

John Smith Jun^r Captⁿ

Sargt Thomas Stevenson
Sarg Samuel Willey
Sarg John Crummet
Sarg John Edgerly
Cor. Joseph Wormwood
Cor Joseph Davis
Cor. Joseph Edgerly
Cor. John Durgain
John Footman
Joseph Footman
Samuel Smith
Benja. Smith
Joseph Chasly
Ebenezer Smith
Benj^r Pender
Francis Durgain
Eliphalet Daniel
Reuben Daniel
John Kent
John Kent Jun.
Abraham Mathews
John Drew
Elijah Drew
Tho Bickford
Robert Kent
Tho. Langley
William Lord
Stephen Willey
Benja Mathews
Nolintin Mathews
Abraham Mathews Jun
Joseph Stevenson
Abraham Stevenson
Caleb Wakham
Francis Footman
Daniel Davis
Tho Footman Jun.
John Genikins
Benja Genikins

Robert Burnham Jun.
John Burnham Jun.
Richard Dunmore
Benja Davis
Jabez Davis
Jeremiah Davis
Solomon Davis
Ebenezer Davis
Samuel Meeder
James Burnham
Ichbod Denmore
Joseph Bickford
John Langly
Jobe Langley
Hezekiah Marsh
Willm Willey
John Mason
Daniel Doo
John Doo
Joseph Doo
Benja Doo
Will^m Wormwood Jun.
Will^m Jacks
Joshua Crumet
Abraham Bennet Jun.
James Durgain Jun.
Will^m Durgain
Phillip Crommet
Benja Bennet
Isac Mason
David Davis
Samuel Joy
Joshua Davis
Joseph Dudy
Joseph Dudy Jun.
Benmore Dudy
Tho Willey
Theodor Willey
James Smith

Joseph Smith
Tho Yorke
Samuel Watson
Joseph Gleden

Joshua Woodman
John Cretchet
John Willey
James Burnham Jun

A true Copy of the List Rool taken y^e Last Training Day and Cop-
pyed out July y^e 29th 1740 Total 86

Joseph Drew Clerk

Daniel Meader's Petition, Feb. 11, 1745.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Com-
mander In Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New
Hampshire the Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of
Representatives in General Assembly Convened the 11th Day
of Feb 1744-5

The Humble Petition of Daniel Meader of Durham in the
Province of New Hampshire in behalf of himself & the People
called Quakers Inhabitants of Durham afores^d Shews

That your Petition^r was Chosen Constable of the Said Town
at their annual Meeting in March 1743 for that year & at the
same time One Isaac Clarke was chosen a Constable or Col-
lector of the Minister Rate thereby Intending to Exonerate the
Constable of the Town (properly so called) from that service.

That since that Choice M^r Hugh Adams has Recovered a
Judgment agst y^e Town at the Court of Appeals for a consid-
erable sum of Money w^{ch} the Town was obliged to Raise, a
Meeting was called & a vote was past for Raising a sum of
Money but Express'd in a Covert disguised manner purposely
concealing the use & design to which it was to be applied with
an Intent as your Petitioner Conceives both to oblige him to
Collect it & the Quakers to pay a part of it who are Exempted
by law from paying any part of money Raised to the use for
w^{ch} this was Really designed—And pursuant hereto a list of
Rates was made wherein all Denominations were taxed to-
wards the sum voted as aforesaid & artifice & contrivance used
to get it into the hands of your Petitioner & to oblige him to
Collect the money.

That as the Laws of the Province do not oblige any man or
men to pay towards the Support of any way of Worship but
that which he or they attend much less will they Compel any
man to Collect money for the Support of that mode of worship
from which he dissents and the money adjudged to M^r Adams
aforesaid & which has been Collected (with other money) and
since paid to him Comes within the meaning of the Province
Laws granting Liberty of Conscience & other Privileges re-
specting Religious worship as any sum to be raised for any
ministers yearly Salary.

Wherefore y^r Petition^r Humbly prays that as the Quakers have not yet paid the part of said Rates which they were assessed they may be Exempted & discharged from paying the same and he Exonerated from the burthen of making such Collection And farther as your Petitioner conceives the Collecting any part of Said Rates was an unjust Imposition on him he Prays that he may be paid by the Said Town a Quantum Meruit for that Service and he will as in Duty bound Ever pray &c

DANIEL MEDER.

Petition of Joseph Thomas and other inhabitants of Durham.

To the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives for the Province of New Hampshire in General Assembly Convened Nov^r 1755.

Humbly Shows. Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town of Durham in Said Province That they apprehend themselves aggrieved By the Return made by two of the Select men of Said Town of the Person said to be Chosen to Represent the Said Town in the Last Election for That they Conceive upon a fair Examination of the Facts Relative thereto, it will be found That Joseph Thomas their Late Representative was really the Person Legally chosen & Ought to have been so Returned.

That the true State of the Case is thus, upon Reading & Counting the Written Votes put in it appeared that Lieut Stephen Jones had one more Vote than Said Thomas upon which there appeared a Sufficient Number (who being Doubtful whether it could be so upon a fair Examination) Desired a Poll to Put the matter beyond Dispute which was accordingly Granted the Event of which was that there were thirty nine Polls in favour of said Thomas & thirty two Polls in favour of said Jones—whereupon the Moderator Declared the said Thomas the Person Elected & Directed the Clerk to make the Entry accordingly—Yet so it is that the said Jones is Returned as the Person Elected & said to be Notified to attend accordingly all which upon an Impartial Inquiry will Turn out as your Petition^r apprehend to be a Misrepresentation & a bold Infringement upon the Rights & Libertys of the Electors & worthy of Inquiry & Examⁿ wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray the Premises may be taken under Consideration by this Hon^{ble} House & Such a Resolution form'd thereupon as shall be found upon Examinaⁿ to be agreeable to the Truth of the Different

facts & allegations Produced & made by the Different Parties Concern'd and your Petition^r Shall Pray &c.

JOS THOMAS
ELIPHALET DANIEL
JONATHAN DURGAIN
BENJ JENKINS

Petition for a highway.

Province of }
New Hamp. }

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General and Governour in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire & To the Honourable his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Court Convened This Eleventh Day of February A. D. 1768

The Petition of us the Subscribers being Inhabitants and Freeholders of Durham, Newmarket and Towns adjacent Most Humbly Sheweth That at his Majesty's Court of General Sessions of the peace begun & held at Portsmouth within and for the said Province of New Hampshire on the first Tuesday of September last, Your Petitioners humbly Petitioned said Court of Sessions for a "High way of two Rods wide to be laid out from the Bridge at Lamprele River To the Road leading from Durham Point to Durham Falls in The following manner viz. beginning at the County Road at said Lamprele River near Joseph Hams Dwelling House & to Run as the Path now Runs through lands of Walter Bryant Esq^r and Abraham Bennett To lands of Samuel Smith at the Gate at the Head of said Smiths Pasture from thence running between said Smith & Bennetts Land to the afores^d path at the Head of said Smiths lane and Down said Smiths Lane To the End thereof. Thence running between said Smith & Bennetts land & Through Said Smiths land as The path now goes To Lands of Joseph Chesle Thence Through the Several Lands of Said Chesley The heirs of Ebenezer Smith Esq^r Deceased and John Smith to lands of Thomas Stevenson & through said Stevensons land between his House & Barn To lands of Joseph Footman & through said Footmans Land to lands of Dependance Bickford & John Durgin and through said Bickford & Durgins land To & through Lands belonging To the said Heirs of Ebenezer Smith To Mathes' Creek (so called) near the Mill and over the said Creek between lands of the Honourable Peter Levius Esq^r and John Kent To Lands in possession of John & Joseph Drew Thence running between said Levius & Drews Land To a Road Leading from Durham Point to Lamprele River"—and

at the Court of General Sessions holden at said Portsmouth in December last The Petitioners prayed for a Committee To view the Several Lands Through which said Road was Intended to be laid out and To Report To the said Court of Sessions Thereon but the Court refused To send a Committee or to grant the prayer of the said Petitioner and accordingly the Petition was Dismissed by means whereof your Petitioners are much aggrieved as the said Way if laid out would much Com-mode your Petitioners as well as his Majestys Subjects in general. Wherefore your said Petitioners Most humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours would Take The matter under your Consideration & Cause the said place to be viewed & if the said way should appear to be necessary & Convenient Then To order the Said Way to be laid out and opened in such way & manner as your Excellency and Honours shall in your great wisdom Think fit and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever pray

Feb. 11th 1768.

David Davis
Moses Edgerly Jr.
Truworthy Durzin Jun
Stephen Willie Jun
Nath^l Norton
George Bickford
Valentine Mathea
John Mead
Ede Hall Bergin
Zebulon Doe Jun
Jonathan Doe
Edward Smith
Bradstreet Doe

James Cram
Tho^s Stevenson
Joseph Drew
John Drew
Joseph Wornwood Jr.
Dep. Bickford
Francis Mathea
John Edgerly
John Smith
George Tuttel
Tim^o Murray
John Munroe

Province of) In the House of Representatives Feb 18th 1768
New Hamp.) The within Petition being Read

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition the third Day of the Siting of the General Assembly next after the tenth Day of March next and that they at their own Cost Serve the Selectmen of Durham with a Copy of this Petition and Order of Court that they May shew Cause why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted

M. Weare Clr.

In Council Feb^{ry} 19th 1768

Read & concurr'd

Geo. King Dep. Sec^y

Province of) In the House of Representatives March 15th 1768
New Hamp.) The Parties being heard on this Petition and the matter Considered—

Voted That Andrew Wiggin Esq^r Capt. Eliphelet Merrill and Capt. Ezekiel Worthen be a Committee to View the Road Petitioned for to hear what any Persons Concern'd may offer and make Report to the General Assembly as soon as may be. The Cost of the Committee to be Paid by the Petitioners

M. Weare Clr

Province } At a Town meeting of the Free holders & other Inhab-
 of New Hamp. } itants of Durham held at the Meeting House in s^d Dur-
 ham on Monday the 7th day of March 1768 at 3 o'clock
 P. M.

Voted that Capt. Thomas Chesley shall be an agent in behalf of the Town to answer to a Petition signed by Thomas Stevenson & others, Directed to the Governor, Council and representatives of s^d Province requesting a High Way To be laid out from the Bridge at Lampereel River To the Road leading from Durham Point to Durham Falls. And to shew cause why the Prayer of s^d Petition should not be granted.

A True Copy—

Attest John Smith S. Cler pro tempore

EPPING.

[Epping was incorporated 12 February, 1741. Ed.]

Petition of the Inhabitants of Epping for men to protect them.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Hoa His Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened

Humbly Sheweth the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Epping in s^d Province that your Petitioners are Sensible of the weak and Defenceless State of the Town of Nottingham which Lies on our Border—That the Inhabitants there Seem very much Discouraged Inasmuch that Some are Removed and others are about Removing out of Town. That if that Settlement should Break up this Parish with Part of New Market and Durham will become Frontiers which we of ourselves Shall not we fear be able to Defend and the Enemy who will be much Incouraged will have near access to the very Bowells of the Province which may Possibly have very Fatal Consequences.

We Do therefore by these Presents Humbly Request your Excellency and Honours to take the Premises with other Reasons that may occur into your wise Consideration and if it appear Proper make Provision for and send to said Town of Nottingham to be Kept there for their Safeguard and Defence—Such a number of Men as may be needfull for that Purpose and as that Town is very much Exposed we Humbly Presume that a much Larger number will be necessary for that End than has been allowed them in years Past, and as the Common Road between Red Oak Hill so called and Nottingham is very Dan-

gerous to Pass we Would Request that a Small Scout of Men May be sent to the named Gareson on Pantuckaway road to scout from thence to Sanborns Garrison when not wanted for that to Guard the People at s^r Garrisons May it Pleas Your Excellency and Honours it appears to us that our Safety in a Great Measure Depends upon the Safety of Nottingham which we Hope you will Effectually Provide for and we shall Esteem it as an Instance of your Paternal Care not only of Nottingham but of your Petitioners also who as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c.

Edward Stevens
Jonathan Foulson
Benjamin Rawlings
David Page
Richard Samborn
Nathan Samborn
Jonathan Kee-ey
Joseph Goodhue
Onispherous Page
Joseph Edgerly
John Elkins
Daniel Elkins
Samuel Elkins
Robert Hinkson
John Hinkson
John Dudley
Moses Hoyt
James Chase
Jacob Freese
Elias Smith
Jeremiah Prescott
William Prescott
Abraham Brown
John Rowell
John Page

James Whidden
Joseph Emery
Joseph Cass
Ezekiel Brown
Abraham Folsom
Jonathan Smith
Jonathan Rundlet
Eleazer Elkins
Jeremiah Elkins
Is'el Blak
Joseph Blak
Jediah Blake
Jeremiah Prescott
John Prescott
William Eaton
Jonathan Gliden
Joseph Noris
Moses Noris
John Noris
John Manten
Daniel Manten
Ebenezer Manten
Caleb Gillman
Israel Gillman
John Morison

Epping March 5th 1747

In Council March 8th 1747

read & ordered to be sent down to y^e Hon^d House

Theo^d Atkinson Sec^r

EPSOM.

[This town was incorporated 18 May, 1727. Ed.]

An Act to invest Proprietors of Epsom, with town rights, &c.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Secundi Magnæ Britanniæ Franciæ & Hi-
bernæ Decimo Septimo.

An Act to invest the Proprietors of the Township of Epsome with

the Powers & Privileges of any other Proprietors of Townships in this Province.

Whereas the said Proprietors have Represented that they were not Enabled to proceed in the Settlement of their Township so Effectually as they might do for want of sufficient powers and authorities of Law to Enforce & Expedite the payment of such Sums of Money as should be agreed & voted by the said Proprietors to be Raised for the promoting & Carrying on the Settlement aforesaid—And as the making such Settlements are of General Benefit to the Province as well as for the Interest of the Particular Proprietors

Be it therefore Enacted by His Excellency Govern^r Council & Representatives in General Assembly Convened & by the authority of the same That the said Proprietors of the Said Township of Epsom shall be & hereby are Invested with all the Powers Authorities & Privileges given by Law to the Proprietors of any Town ship within this Province Respecting the voting Assessing Raising & Collecting or Levying any Sum or Sums of Money that have been or shall be agreed upon & voted by the Majority of the said Proprietors at any Legal meeting for defraying the charge of the Gospel Ministry in the s^d Township and for the future may Lawfully use & Exercise the same Powers, Authorities & privileges in all other respects as occasion shall serve as fully & amply to all Intents & purposes whatsoever as the Proprietors of any Township in this Province & in the same manner as if the same had been herein particularly mentioned and in Like manner may proceed to call or notify any future meeting of the said Proprietors & to order Govern & manage their proceedings & affairs at such meeting This act to Continue & be in force for the Space of five Years & no Longer.

In the House of Representatives apr 18th 1744.

The above Bill Read three times & past to be Enacted

And Wiggins Speaker

Petition of John Weeks.

Province of
New Hamp^{sh}

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honorable His Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened the Third day of March 1761

The Petition of John Weeks of Hampton in Province of New Hampshire Esq^r in behalf of and as agent for the Proprietors of Epsom in said Province Most humbly sheweth That a Considerable part of the land in Said Epsom is owned by Non Residents. That there is no law in this Province whereby Proprietors of Common and undivided lands can raise Money by Taxes and Cause the same to be Collected. That the Inhabitants of said Epsom are unable to build a meeting house for the Public Worship of God or to support a Minister of the Gospel among them That the Proprietors of Epsom aforesaid at a meeting of said Proprietors held at Epsom aforesaid by

adjournment on the tenth day of September 1760 voted that the Proprietors of land in said Epsom should pay two Shillings old Tenor per acre for every acre of land which then was laid out in Severalty in Said Town To be paid within one year from the said Tenth day of September afores^d. Partly to pay for the perambulating the Several lines of said Town and for laying out the undivided lands in said Town and the Remainder to be applied towards building a meeting house and maintaining a Minister in said Epsom—Also That the Proprietors aforesaid should pay one Shilling old Tenor per acre per year for five years next after the said one year should be expired, to be applied towards the building a meeting house and maintaining a Minister in s^d Epsom and at the same meeting voted your Petitioner agent for said Proprietors to prefer a Petition to the General Assembly for a Confirmation of said Vote :

Wherefore your Petitioners in the Capacity afores^d prays your Excellency and Honours by an act to Ratify and Confirm Said Vote And to Authorize & Impower the said Proprietors to tax all the lands laid out in Severalty in said Epsom on the said Tenth day of September afores^d at two Shillings old Tenor per acre for one year for the use and purpose afores^d. And to enable the said Proprietors to Collect the Same also a tax for five years next after the said one year every acre of land that shall then be laid out in Severalty in said Town at one Shilling old Tenor per acre each year for the use and purpose aforesaid and to enable the said Proprietors to Collect the Same.

JOHN WELLES Agent

In Council March 3^d 1761

read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

Theod Atkinson Secy

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Epsom for abating the Province Tax.

Province of
New Hamp^s

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General Governour & Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the Honable Councell & house of Representatives now Convened in General Assembly at Portsmouth

the Petition of his Majestys Good Subjects Inhabitants of the towaship of Epsom in Said Province Humbly Sheweth

We the Poor Inhabitants of the township of Epsom in Said Province humbly Beg Leave to Remonstrate our Very Poor Distressing Circumstances to your Compassion & Most Earn-

estly Crave your Pity and pray your Honours to Relieve us from the unsupportable Burden of Province tax under which we are made to Grone and Which we think we Cannot Possibly Survive under unless your Honours Will be Pleased to Mitigate and free us from. Gentlemen our Numbers are Very small & we are very much Exposed to Losses our young Cattle Sheep & Swine are often Destroyed by Wild beasts and further we have Lately Seteled a minister among us which we are affraid we Shall not be able to Support by Reason of the Poor Circumstances we are now under we are not able to Build a Meeting House but our Minister is obliged to Preach in Some of our Dwelling houses the tax which was Laid on us the Last year many of us were obliged to hire the money to Pay our Necessities are very Grate by Reason of the Scarcity of Provisions we have been obliged to Lay out all that we have got for years Past & are now much in Debt this is to Entreat your Honours to take of the heavy tax which we now Labour under & Restore us the money we Paid Last year & your Petitioners Sh ll Dyer Pray as in Duty Bound

John McClary
George Wallis
Nathan Marden
John Black
Ephraim Lock
Reuben Sanborn Jun.
Eliphalet Sanborn
Reuben Sanborn
James Wood
Abraham Leebbee
Abraham Wallis
Benjamin Blake
Thomas Blake
Isaac Leebbee

Isaac Leebbee Jun.
Reuben Leebbee
Amos Blais
Samuel Bickford
Samuel Black
Thomas Hines
John Blais
Ephraim Bery
William Blake
Benson Ham
John McGaffey
Andrew McClery
Abner Evans

In Council June 24th 1762

Read & Order'd to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Jun Sec^y

Province of
New Hampshire

Epsom May the 26. 1760

these are to notifie the proprieters of the town of Epsom to meet at the house of Cap^t Andrew McClarey in epsom on wensday the eightenth of June next at ten of the clock in the fore noon then and their to see if the proprieters will asist the inhabittance in bulding a meeting house and asist the inhabittance about the hiring a minister or any other thing that may be thot proper for the benefit of s^t town and to see if the proprieters will devide the undevided Land in epsom and likewise see if they will preambulate the several lines in s^t Epsom.

A true Copy atest by N Marden proprieters Clark

John McClary }
Thomas Blake } Selectmen

At a Legal meeting of the Proprietors of the town of Epsom held at the house of Capt Andrew McClary on wensday the 18 day of June 1760

1 voted M^r Isaac Lebbee to be moderator for the present meeting.
2 voted that the meeting be adjourned until the tenth day of September next at ten of the Clock Before noon to be held at the place afores^t

A true copy atest by

Nathan Marden proprietors Clark

September the 10, 1760

1 voted Nathan Marden be proprietors Clark for the proprietors of Epsom until another be chosen.

2 voted that the proprietors pay two Shillings pr. Acre old tener for all and every acre of Land which is laid into Severely in the town of Epsom within one year from this Date partly to pay for the perambulating the Lines of s^t Epsom & laying out the undevideid Land and the remainder to be applyed towards Building a meeting house & maintaining a menester in s^t Epsom and also that the proprietors pay one Shilling old tener pr. acre pr. year for five years next after the s^t one year is Expir'd to be applied towards building a meeting house and maintaining a minister in s^t Epsom.

3 voted that John Weeks Esq^r be an agent for the proprietors of Epsom to prefer a petition to the general Court for a confirmation of s^t votes and also for an act to enable the s^t proprietors to collect s^t sum.

4 voted that Capt. John McClary be a Committee to perambulate the Lines of Epsom & to Divide the Undevideid Land in Epsom.

5 Voted that Nathan morden be a Committie man for the Same.

6 voted that Ephraim Lock be a Committie man for the Same

Isaac Lebbee Sen^r moderator

A true Copy atest by

Nathan Marden proprietors Clark

We whose names are under writen Desir the select men of Epsom to insert the follong and Call a proprietors meeting Viz.

John Weeks
Bracket Johnson } Proprietors

William Bery
Leve Dearborn
John Lebbee
Ephraem Lock
John McClary
Andrew McClary

William Blaso
Isaac Lebbee Sen^r
Georg Walles
Nathan Marden
Benjamin Holt
Isaac Lebbee Junr.

EXETER.

[Exeter was purchased of certain Indian Sachems by Rev. John Wheelwright and others, 3 April, 1638. The purchase embraced thirty miles Square. Under this purchase, the settlement was made.]

Combination at Exeter, 1639.

[See and compare copy from Ancient Record of Exeter, Prov. Pap. Vol. I, pp. 131—133.]

Combination for government at Exeter, with the forms of oaths for rulers and people

Whereas it hath pleased the Lord to move the heart of our dread Sovereign Charles by the grace of God King &c to grant license and liberty to sundry of his subjects to plant themselves in the western parts of America—We his loyal subjects, brethren of the church in Exeter, situate and lying upon the river Pascataquacke with other inhabitants there, considering with ourselves the holy will of God and our own necessity, that we should not live without wholesome laws and government among us, of which we are altogether destitute, do in the name of Christ and in the sight of God combine ourselves together to erect and set up amongst us such government as shall be to our best discerning agreeable to the will of God professing ourselves subjects to our Sovereign Lord King Charles, according to the liberties of our English colony of the Massachusetts, and binding ourselves solemnly by the grace and help of Christ, and in his name and fear, to submit ourselves to such godly and christian laws as are established in the realm of England to our best knowledge, and to all other such laws which shall upon good grounds be made and enacted amongst us according to God, that we may live quietly & peaceably together in all godliness and honesty.

Mo. 5 D. 4. 1639.

John Wheelwright
Augustine Storer
Thomas Wright
William Wentworth
Henry Elkins
George Walton
Samuel Walker
Thomas Petit
Henry Roby
William Winborne
Thomas Crawley
Christopher Helme
Darby Field
Robert Read
Edward Rishworth
Francis Matthews
Godfrey Dearborne
William Wardhall

Robert Smith
Ralph Hall
Robert Seward
Richard Bulger
Christopher Lawson
George Barlow
Richard Morris
Nicholas Needham
Thomas Wilson
George Rawbone
William Cole
James Wall
Thomas Leavitt
Edmund Littlefield
John Cramme
Philemon Purmot
Thomas Wardhall

The Elder's or Ruler's Oath.

You shall swear by the great and dreadful name of the high God maker and governor of heaven and earth and by the Lord Jesus Christ the prince of the kings and rulers of the earth, that in his name and fear you will rule and govern his people according to the righteous will of God, ministering justice and judgement on the workers of iniquity

and ministering due encouragement and countenance to well doers, protecting of the people so far as in you lieth by the help of God from foreign annoyance and inward disturbance that they may live a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. So God be help ful and gracious to you and yours in Christ Jesus:

Oath of the people.

We do swear by the Great and dreadful Name of the High God, Maker and Governor of heaven and earth, and by the Lord Jesus Christ, the King and Saviour of his people, that in his Name and fear, we will submit ourselves to be ruled and governed according to the will and word of God, and such wholesome laws and ordinances as shall be derived therefrom by our honored Rulers and the lawful assistants, with the consent of the people, and that we will be ready to assist them by the help of God in the administration of justice and preservation of the peace, with our bodies and goods and best endeavour according to God. So God protect and save us and ours in Jesus Christ.

Exeter Sept. 26th 1738

To the Gentlemen Selectmen of Exeter: We the Subscribers pray you would forthwith call a town meeting and we pray you Insert the following in your s^d warrant for a town meeting.—
To the town of Exeter—The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the western part of the first parish in Exeter, Humbly Sheweth—That we your Petitioners have for diverse years Labour'd under inexpressible Disadvantages & Difficulties on many accounts More particularly by reason of our Great Distance from the publick Meeting House, so that Even in the Summer Season we and our Families cannot attend Regularly & Constantly on the publick worship of God as we would doe and in the winter Season for Diverse years past have thought it Best to be at the Expence of Supporting preaching amongst us without any abatement of our Rates to the Support of the ministry in this Parish, and Having made some Provision & Been at some Cost toward Building a Meeting House among us—

Being now Desirous of Being a Parish by ourselves and as soon as may be Conveniently to Settle an Orthodox Gospel Ministry among us—we therefore pray that you would consider our Circumstances and pass a vote to set us off by ourselves, to be in all respects a Distinct parish as the Parish of New Market is now set off from the first parish in Exeter and we pray if you see Good to vote the Bounds of our Parish as follows. Beginning at old Pickpocket upper Saw-Mill and from thence running South to Kingston line, thence west and by North by Kingston Line four miles, thence north four miles, thence Easterly to New Market South west corner Bounds and So Boundling by New Market South Bounds So far till a South

Line will Strike Pickpocket mill, and then to run from new Market Line South to s^d Mill the Bounds first mentioned.

Andrew Gilman
Edward Colcord
Nicholas Dudley
Stephen Leavit
Benjamin Veasey
Jonathan Robinson
Jeremiah Bean
James Robinson
Solomon Smith
Jonathan Cram
Antipas Gilman
Daniel Rundlet
Joshua Bean
John Mudget
Thomas Mudget
Humphrey Wilson
Ephraim Robinson
John Morgan
John Holland
Maverick Gilman
Benjamin Fifield

Daniel Sanburn
Nicholas Dollofe
Nicholas Gordon
Amos Dollofe
Elisha Sanburn
Jonathan Smith
John Marsh
Charles Young
John Roberts Jun.
Ezekiel Smith
Thomas Gordon
Josiah Moody
Samuel Roberts
John Bean
James Dudley
James Dudley Jun.
Joseph Atkinson
Nathaniel Foulshom
Benjamin Scribner
William Graves
Moses Fifield.

A true copy attest

Elisha Odlin town clerk.

Exeter May 5th 1732.

According to y^r Desire (by Mr. Russell) I have hear Sent A List of all The military officers In Exeter with The Date of There Commissions under Gov. Belcher. My one Comission bares Date May 7th 1731. Capt. Peter Gilman Capt. Sam^l Gilman, Capt. Thomas Dean, Capt. Edw^d Hall, Lieut. Daniell Gilman. Lieut. Isreall Gilman Ens^t Rich^d Mattoon. All These Comissions bares Date July 12th 1731.

Leut. Dudley Odlin Cor^l Ezek. Gilman Quarter Mast^r Jon^t Connor, Leut. Theophilus Smith, Ens^t John Gilman, Ensign James Levit. These Comissions Bare Date Oct. 21st 1737.

I am with Respect s^r Your

very Humb^le Sarv^t

John Gilman.

To The Hon^{ble} Rich^d Waldron Esq^r

Petition for a Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England. The Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Court Convened.

The Humble Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of the North Westerly Part of the Town of Exeter in said Province Shews.

That your Petitioners being Settled in the aforesaid part the said Town Labour under Great Difficulties in attending the

Public Worship of God by Reason of the Distance & badness of the Way to the Meeting House Most of em living More than seven miles from it, & some above nine, so that many Persons in their Families can attend the Public Worship but seldom.

That being most of them new Settlers (tho' upon good land) are not able to maintain a Minister among themselves while they are Subjected to & actually pay their proportion to the maintenance of the Gospel & other Charges in the Town.

That a considerable Parish might be set off from the said Town by the following Metes & Bounds v'z. Beginning at the North West Corner of Exeter & from thence running South 29 Deg. W. partly by Nottingham & partly by Chester line four miles and an half & from thence to extend carrying that breadth of four miles and an half East & by South till it comes to the head line of New Market Parish being bounded North'ly partly by Nottingham & partly by Dover Line and Easterly partly by New Market & partly by Exeter the said four miles & an half being something Broader than New Market & so extending a little beyond it upon Exeter which would Comprehend your Petitioners Estates & yet leave a Large and able Parish at the Town below 'em (which would hardly miss 'em) And tho' they are but few & Poor in Comparison of the rest of the Town yet they would Gholly bear the charge of Supporting the Gospel among themselves were they Exonerated from that & other Town Charges & duties in the other part of the Town—But as the aforesaid Bounds Comprehends a Tract of very Good Land they have reason to think from that as well as by experience that they shall Increase in number every year & Especially when accommodated better with respect to the Public Worship.

That a Parish Incorporated by the aforesaid Boundaries with the usual Privileges & Immunities would be a Considerable means of Cultivating & Improving a large Tract of Land which is now unsubdued, inasmuch as People will be thereby Encouraged to go out & Settle there, & the Public in General as well as the said Town in Particular Benefited thereby.

Wherefore your Petitioners Pray This Hon^{ble} Court would Please to take the Premises under Consideration and Grant that they may be Incorporated into a Parish with the usual Parish powers & Privileges by the Metes & bounds aforesaid & Exonerated from paying to the Support of the Minister of the Town & other Town charges & duties that so they may support & Maintain the Gospel a school &c. among themselves with more conveniency for themselves & Families—Or in such other manner as this Hon^{ble} Court in their Great Wisdom & Goodness shall think proper & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c.

Jacob Smith
 David Laurens
 James Norris Jun.
 Samuel Elkins Jun.
 Elias Smith
 John Elkins
 Daniel Elkins
 Jonathan Morris Jun.
 James Rundlet
 John Rowell
 Joseph Avery
 Joseph Norris
 Jonathan Rundlet
 Joel Judkins
 Nathan Sanborn
 Samuel Smith
 Jonathan Smith
 Ithiel Clifford
 Joseph Gorden
 John Carty ?
 Timothy Morgen
 Jeremiah Prescott
 Richard Sanborn
 Simon Garlon
 Job Rowell
 James Norris
 Jonathan Gidden
 John Hall

Theophilus Wodley
 Jeradiah Blacke
 Joseph Blake
 Benjamin Rolings
 George Been
 Nathan Hoight
 Samuel Norris
 Samuel Elkins
 Elezar Elkins
 Jeremiah Elkins
 Caleb Gillman
 Israel Gillman
 Jacob Sanborn
 John Sear
 Israel Shaperd
 Hezakah Swain
 James Chase
 Daniel Lad
 Joseph Malora
 Benjamin Pater
 Jonathan Foulsham
 Ebenezer Marden
 John Norris
 Jonathan Norris
 John Folintown
 Jeremiah Prescott Jun.
 Joseph Edgley
 Moses Rolings.

In the House of Representatives Jan 15th 1741 The within Petition Read and Voted That the Petitioners forthwith Serve the Select Men of Exeter with a Copy of the Petition and the Votes thereon—That the Town of Exeter may appear at the Gen^l Court or Assembly next Tuesday fortnight to Shew Cause (if any they have) why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted—And if the General Court or Ass^m Shall not be then sitting, Then to appear the Third day of the Sitting of the next Sessions of Gen^l Assembly.

James Jeffry Cle Ass^m

In Council Jan 21 1741-2

Read & Concurrd

Rich^d Waldron Sec

Jan 21 1741-2.

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

In the House of Representatives Feb. the 2^d 1741 The within Petitioners were heard and the delegates from the Town of Exeter and they agreed that the Bound shall be as followeth viz. to begin at Durham Line at the North West corner of the p^lish of New Market and from thence Bounding on the head Line of said New Market to the South west Corner of the same, and from thence to run South ab^t twenty nine degrees West parallel with the head Line of the Town of Exeter Extending to half the breadth of the Town-ship of Exeter from Durham Line aforesaid and from thence to run West & by north to the Middle of the head Line of the Town of Exeter and from thence to bound upon Chester and Nottingham to the North West corner of Exeter and from thence bounding East & by South on Nottingham & Durham to the first bounds.

Therefore Voted that the prayer of the Petition be granted & that they be set off by the Bounds aforesaid and have all powers within themselves.

as any Town within this Province Keeping & supporting an Orthodox Minister to preach among them (excepting the Choice of Represent^{ts}) and untill they shall have liberty to have one among themselves they have liberty to Joyn with the Town of Exeter in the choice of Men to Represent the Town as usual and that they pay their Proportion of the charge of such Representatives and that they be not Exempted from paying any charge of the Town of Exeter that has already been assent upon them and that they have Liberty to bring in a Bill Accordingly.

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass^{ts}

In Council Feb. 3. 1741-2

Read and concurred

Rich^d Waldron Secy.

Feb. 3. 1741-2

Assented to

B WENTWORTH

Whereas there is a Petition preferred to the General Court by the northwesterly part of this town to be incorporated into a Parish & s^d Court have Ordered s^d Petitioners to Serve the Selectmen with a Copy of s^d Petition that the town of Exeter may appear at the General Court on Tuesday the Second of Feb^y next to Show Cause if any they have why the Prayer of s^d Petition may not be Granted—These are therefore to Notify all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants belonging to the town of Exeter to assemble themselves together at the town house in Exeter on Monday the first day of February next at one of the clock afternoon then and there to choose two or more fit persons to represent this town in General Assembly if they see fit to make answer to the above Mentioned Petition in Behalf of the town of Exeter.

Dated at Exeter Jan^y 23 1741-2

Thomas Deane }
Nath Webster } Selectmen
Josiah Gilman }

A true Copy Attest Elisha Odlin town clerk

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Exeter holden at the town house in s^d Exeter Feb^y 1st 1741-2

1 Voted Samuel Gilman Esq Moderator of s^d Meeting

2 Voted That two men be chosen to make answer to the Petition preferred to the General Court or assembly by the Northwesterly part of the town with power to act before s^d Court on behalf of the town as they shall think proper.

3 Voted That Samuel Gilman Esq & Lieut Theophilus Smith be three men for the End afores^d

A true Copy Attest Elisha Odlin town Clerk

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Exeter held at the town house in s^d Exeter Feb^y 8th 1741-2

Voted Lieut Daniel Gilman Moderator for s^d meeting

Voted That the meeting be adjourned to this day fortnight one of the clock in the afternoon to meet again at the town house.

The meeting being again met according to adjournment this 22^d day of Feb^y 1741-2

Voted Thomas Deane Clerk for s^d meeting.

Voted That the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Southerly & South-

westerly part of the town of Exeter be granted and that they be set off to be a Parish by themselves and that they have set off to them and their successors the one Halfe of the Breadth of the Land in s^d town Lying at the westerly End thereof for a Parish and that it be Bounded as followeth viz: Beginning at the head of New Market Line then running on a South line to Exeter Great Fresh River and then halfe a Mile up s^d river, & then South to Kingston Line and so to the head of the township Provided that the above s^d Parish doe settle an Orthodox Minister of Christ and maintain & support the same and all other Parish Charges within the same of themselves.

A true Copy Examind this 23^d day of Febr^y 1741-2

pr. Me Elisha Odlin town Clerk

Counter Petition.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and to the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council & Representatives now in General Court assembled.

Humbly Sheweth your Petitioners (Subscribers hereto) Freeholders and Inhabitants of the South westerly part of the Town of Exeter that your Petitioners for Several years past have with Some of our Neighbors erected a house for the Publick worship of God in the most convenient place as we then and now think for the ease and benefit of the Inhabitants of that part of the Town in General and have in the winter time carry'd on the Publick worship in it but Several persons of that part of the Town haveing of late without our Privy or Consent Petitioned the Town to be set off as a Parish within Particular boundaries as Mention'd in their Petition and the Town having met to consider their Petition adjourned the Consideration of the said Meeting to a further day and untill New Market & Eppin Parish lines were run but the Time of the meeting on the adjournment happening before the runing of New Market and Eppin lines your Petitioners and also Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town Expected that the said meeting would have been further adjourned till the said lines had been run and that nothing would have been acted at said Meeting but being press'd on by the said Petitioners who themselves then unjustly voted for the Petition's being Consider'd and Granted by which means it was then consider'd & granted as afores by which Means if your Excellency with this hon^{ble} court should confirm the afores^d vote then pass'd it would Greatly Injure your Petitioners and therefore your Petitioners humbly move your Excellency and this hon^{ble} Court that the Consideration of any Petition that is or may be prefer'd to your Excellency and this hon^{ble} Court for confirming the afores^d vote may not be heard and pass'd upon untill some convenient time be given your Pe-

tioners to appear and shew cause wherefore the Said Vote ought not to be confirmed. And your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever humbly pray &c

Dated at Exeter March 11 1741^r

Andrew Gilman
Timothy Leavitt
Daniel Jels?
Joseph Leavitt
David Smith
Josiah Thing
Benjamin Gilman
Jonathan Wadleigh Jr.
John Roberts
Will^r Bean
Humphrey Wilson
Jereimiah Been
Daniel Wormall
Nicolus Dudley
Edward Stevens
Stephen Leavitt
Sarah Jordan wid
Samuel Smith — ?
John Connor
Edward Colcord

Ebenezer Colcord
Nicklas Dudley
John Dudley
Samuel Dudley
Jonathan Thing
John Holond
Moses Juit
Nicklos Smith
Samuell Edgley
Job Judkings
Nateinel Thing
Edward Colcord
John Dudley Juner
John Gorge
Jearimear Gilman June
Haley Stephens
John Odlin Jun.
Jonathan Gilman Junr.
Nicklis Gordon
John Gils

In the House of Representatives June 22 1742.

the within Petition Read and Parties Heard A Voted That the Petition be Dismissed

James Jeffrey Cler Ass^t

* In these dates readers will bear in mind that the old style is followed—March 11, 1741, being March 11, 1741-2. ED.

Petition for Parish privileges.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Govern^r & Commander in chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hamp^s The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of representatives for s^a Province in Gen^l Court Convened.

The Humble Petition of Sundry Persons Inhabitants on the Southerly or South Westerly parte of the Town of Exeter in s^a Province Sheweth.

That their Estates & habitations are so far from the meeting House where they usually attend the Publick Worship as makes it very Inconvenient for them, most of them living above five miles Distant therefrom Considering of which & the Large Congregation that belongs to the meeting house afores^d & their ability The Town at a Publick meeting on the 22 day of Feb^r last have voted a new Parish should be Erected by the Bounds set forth in the Vote (if the Gen^l Court Saw meet) which will comprehend your Petitioners Estates & habitations & if a Parrish was Erected there will have a Tendency to Promote the settlements of the Lands in that Parte of the

Town & of the Town adjoining which vote is herewith Presented.

That your Petitioners finde a number of Persons of the s^d Town have already Petitioned this Court that this Petition may not be Granted untill they are heard against it but have not set forth any reason they have against it but Proposed to Do it (as it seems by their Petition) *ore tenus* upon the hearing whereby your Petitioners will be under this Disadvantage that they cannot Inform their Council of those facts which will be necessary in answer to what shall be alleged.

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that they may be erected & Incorporated into a Parrish by the Boundaries in the s^d Vote & that if this Hon^{ble} Court think Proper that the afores Petitioners Should be first heard that they would order that they file their objections in Some Publick office in writing some reasonable time before the Day of hearing that so your Petitioners may have a fair opportunity of answering them & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever Pray &c.

James Dudley
Rob^t Young
Darby Kelley
Benja Veasey
Elisha Sanburne
Jeremiah Bean
James Robinson
Benja Fifield
James Dudley Junr.
Jn^s Roberts Junr
Moses Fifield
Jas Morgan
Jos^s Bean
Maverick Gillman
Tho^s Gordon
Dan^s Sanborn
Charles Young
Nich^s Gordon
Jn^s Smith
Jn^s Bean
Josiah Moody
Jn^s Brown
Rob^t Brown
Sam^s Jones
Nathiel Foulsum
W^m Smith
Shobel Sanburne

Jon^s Crane
Tho^s Mudget
Joseph Thing
Antipas Gillman
John Folsham
Jn^s Levitt Jan
George Robert
Jon^s Smith
Jeremiah Row
Jon^s Taler
Zach^s Judkins
John Levett
Ithiel Smith
Alex^s Roberts
Benj^s Scribner
Sam^s Dudley
David Bean
Joseph Atkinson
Sam^s Roberts
Ezekiel Smith
Jacob Smith
Ebenez Hutchinson
Daniel Hilton
Jn^s Midget
W^m Graves
Jon^s Robinson
Nich^s Dolloff

In the House of Representatives, March 17th 1741.

The within Petition read & another Petition of Andrew Gillman of Exeter & others who Desire to be heard before the Prayer of the within Petition be granted.

Voted that some or one of the above or within Petition^{ers} Serve the Said Andrew Gillman with a Copy of the Petition & Court order thereon forthwith & that the Parties appear the third Day of the Sitting of the

Genl Assembly next Sessions to be heard & that the Contrary party may shew Cause (if any they have) why the Prayer of this Petition may not be Granted & that Andrew Gillman & others file their objections in the Secretarys office Ten Days before the next sitting of the Genl Assembly
James Jeffrey Cler Assembly

In Council March 22¹ 1741

The above vote read & Concurr'd

Theo'd Atkinson Sec^r

Vera Copia

Theodore Atkinson Sec^r

In the House of Representatives Jun 22¹ 1744 The within Petition Read and the Parties heard thereon and those that desired to be heard against it. and voted

That the Prayer of the Petition be granted they maintaining an orthodox minister & that Ichabod Roby & Richard Jenness Esqrs. be a Committee of this House to Joyne Such as the Hon^{ble} the Council shall appoint to go on the Spot and View where it is most Convenient that a new meeting House may be placed So as to be most Convenient for all the Parties Concern'd & that to be Conclusive and the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass^m

Remonstrance.

Whereas a Number of the Inhabitants of y^e Southerly or South westerly part of the town of Exeter By a vote pass'd at a meeting held by adjournment at the town house in Exeter Feby. 22¹ 1741-2 were set off to be a parish by meets and Bounds Express'd in Said vote which they have Since Petitioned to Court to Confirm we think ought not to be confirmed for y^e following reasons.

1 Because as we apprehend the s^t vote was illegally obtained the meeting Being before adjourn'd, to have the Line run which was not done. and y^efore many Inhabitants not present thinking the meeting would be further adjourn'd. and the s^t Petitioners Being the maj Part of the voters forc't it on and voted it and it Being a particular favour to themselves we Esteem it illegal & y^efore not to be Confirmed

2 Because we with some of our neighbors a number of the Inhabitants of the s^t Southerly &c. Part of the town have been at considerable charge in Erecting and Building a house for the worship of God and the meets and Bounds by which they are set of is contrary to what was ever Proposed by s^t Inhabitants on y^e part of the town and was without our Knowledge or Consent and has a manifest tendency to destroy our Labours and to overthrow or at Least Greatly Disturb the worship of God amongst us.

3 Bec: The Line of s^t Parish includes or takes in many of us & Great part or all of our Estates altho' we timely entre'd

our Protests against any such thing under present circumstances & y^efore &c.

4 Bec: of our inability we being not yet ripe for a Parish, under our present Divided circumstances having Got nothing in any forwardness therefor, & most of y^e Petitioners Exceeding poor, and scarcely able to live now Even as we may say y^e Biggest part of them and having a meeting house to Build a Minister to Maintain & settle and a school to maintain together with y^e Largeness of Provinces taxes and we Being also much Divided amongst ourselves, it would as we apprehend if confirmed be to the utter ruin of many familys an impoverishing of the place, a Damage to themselves & families a Laying a yoke upon us all which we shall not be able to Bear

5 Bec: the Confirming of the same under our Present Circumstances would as we apprehend be but confirming of confusion and disorder amongst us and instead of advancing and Enlarging y^e Kingdom and Interest of x^e would tend to increase intestine Jars and animositys amongst us Even as fear to our entire over throw at last, & y^efore not to Be confirmed.

6 Bec: we would further Give as a reason the unpresidency of the thing to be set of to be a Parish Before agreed w^e to set a House & even whilst quarreling about the same y^e Like Instance not to be Given we Believe in New England y^efore pray y^e it may not be confirmed.

Warrant for y^e meeting the 17th of May.

Whereas upwards of thirty of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the town of Exeter have Desired us the Subscribers, Selectmen of the s^t town forthwith to Issue a warrant to warn a meeting of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the said town to take into consideration the vote that was on the 22 day of Feb^r last by adjournment as they think illegally obtained by the Petitioners of the Southerly & Southwesterly part of the town of Exeter for being set off as a Parish within particular Boundaries as set forth in their Petition which vote the s^t Petitioners have since preferr'd a Petition to the General assembly of this Province to get a Confirmation of— and for as much as the said thirty Inhabitants & freeholders afores^d think said vote was Illegally obtained and that themselves as well as the town in General shall be Greatly injured in Case said vote is Confirmed: These are therefore to notify the freeholders and Inhabitants of this town of Exeter to meet at the town house in s^t town on Monday the 17 day of may Currant at two of the clock in the afternoon to consider of a vote if they think fit first if they think the said vote was Legally obtained or not. 2nd if the Confirmation of said vote will not be of a manifest Injury to the town in General. 3 if the town will then Choose some person to represent the same at the next sitting of the General Court in June next and to doe

what else they shall then think proper to be done about the Premises.
Dated at Exeter afores the third day of may anno Domini 1742.

a true copy attest

Elisha Odlin town clerk

Jonathan Connor John Odlin Jr.
Nath: Webster Robert Light
Josiah Gilmon

Selectmen

Remonstrance.

To His Excellency Banning Wentworth Esqr. Governour & Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ty} Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council for said Province & House of Representatives when Conven'd in Gen^l Assembly.

Whereas Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Southerly & Southwesterly part of Exeter in New Hampshire at the Last Sessions preferred a Petition to this Hon^{ble} Court to be set off a Parish (from the old meeting House in Exeter aforesaid where they usually attended the Publick Worship) by meets and Bounds as set forth in the Said Petition. And whereas after the Intent of the above Petitioners was known by us the Subscribers who never Consented to the said Petition we did also Prefer a Petition to this Hon^{ble} Court Dated at Exeter March 11. 1741 Praying that the above Petition might not be granted until we were heard, upon which the Court on Considering both Petitions Ordered that we should file our answers in the Secy^s office ten days before the Siting of the Assembly in their next Sessions— In obedience to which order— for answer why we may not be included within the said Petition and set off from the old Town with them Petition^{ers} Is that we do not nor never desired it and that our Estates are parted by the Line proposed. None of us Living within the Body of the new Precinct Proposed but on the Lines on the East and South Sides and that the s^d lines proposed will be very injurious to us & therefore we Humbly Pray that our Poles and Estates may still be Continued to the old Town of Exeter, and we are humbly of opinion that it would be a very great hardship to set off so great a number of us, the Subscribers from the Place we now belong to against our Wills and Interests and which wou'd prove so Great Damage to us on all accounts and that if this Hon^{ble} Court think Proper to sett off that new District, we humbly pray y^t we may be polled of to the old Town with our Estates within the s^d boundrys and as in Duty Bound we shall Ever Pray &c.

May 24th 1742

Andrew Gilman
 Timothy Leavitt
 John Roberts
 Nicholas Dudley
 Benjamin Gilman
 Daniel Wornall
 Edward Colecord
 Humphrey Wilson
 Biley Lyford
 Haley Stevens
 Jeremiah Bean ?
 Joseph Leavit
 William Bean
 Edward Thing
 Nicolas Smith
 Daniel Gies
 Moses Just

Samuel Dudley Jr.
 Jonathan Thing
 Ebenezer Colecord
 Edward Stevens
 Jonathan Wadleigh
 Daniel Quimby
 Andrew Downer
 Abraham Smith
 Samuel Smith Copp
 Josiah Thing
 Nickels Dudley Jun.
 Sarah Gordon widow
 John Yonge
 Nath Webster
 John Evinly
 John Dudley
 Stephen Leavit

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Exeter held at the town house in s^d Exeter May 17th 1742

Voted Mr. Daniel Thing moderator for s^d meeting. At the same meeting it was put to vote whether the town would act any thing on the warrant and it pass'd in the Negative

A true Copy attest Elisha Odlin town clerk

Remonstrance.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governour & Comander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England & to the Hon^{ble} His Maj^{ties} Council for Said Province & House of Representatives w^{ch} Convened in Gen^l Assembly

Whereas Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Southerly & Southeasterly part of the Town of Exeter in New hampshire aforesaid at the last Sessions Preferred a Petition to this Hon^l Court to be set off a psish. (from the old Town of Exeter where they usually attended the Publick Worship) Setting forth therein that the Town at a Meeting held the 22^d day of february last past voted a new psish should be erected by the bounds set forth in the vote of the 22^d of Feb (which would comprehend the Petitioners and their Estates) as pr. their Petition.

And by a Petition dated at Exeter the 11th day of March last past by Sundry Persons who signed the Petition so dated Andrew Gillman & others Presented the Same to the Gen^l Court praying that the Petition first above referred to might not be granted till they were heard. the Hon^l Court ordered that the said Petitioners should serve the said Andrew Gillman with a Coppy of the said Petition and Court order thereon and a day of appearance at the sitting of the next Gen^l Ass^y

and also to file answers ten days before the sitting of the next Gen. Ass. in the Secretaries office (to show cause &c)

And in obevance to Said order, and for Answer (besides w^h is in the said Andrew Gillman & others Petition) they beg leave to say 1st That they are humbly of opinion what was acted at the meeting held on the 22nd Fe^b last was not done in conformity to the intent of the Town at the first meeting which was held the 8th of Fe^b & y^e on y^e 22nd of Fe^b was by adjournment, the Reason of which adjournment was (That New Market & Epping Parrish Line might be run and until it was run) that the Town & People might the better know what & whose p^{er}sons & Estates would fall in. But the day of the said meeting on y^e 22nd of Fe^b fell out, before either of the Said Lines were Run and your Respondents Supposing the meeting would be againe adjourned until the Said Lines were run they were not at the meeting nor did Several of them know whether their houses or Estate would fall within or without the Said Line of the proposed new p^{ar}ish. The Petitioners for the new Parish took the advantage of so thin a meeting and would not adjourn againe to have the aforesaid Lines run But obtained a vote for setting themselves off (they being y^e Majority) and gave themselves bounds- all which management we think to be agst Law or Equity- & therefore not to be regarded or Confirmed.

2nd By the Bounds Set forth in the vote of y^e 22nd of Feb. the Estates of Several of your Respond^{ents} are split & Divided so as some of their houses are in the old Town & their improved Land within the bounds proposed for the New Precinct and Severall of their homsted Lands divided some one side of the Line and some on the other which may be very prejudicial to them.

3rd They are taken in by said Line of y^e proposed precinct agst their wills or knowledge (by the vote of y^e 22nd Feb. aforesaid being past before the Lines aforesaid was run according to the intent of the Town) or that many of them knew how the Lines of the proposed Parrish would fall & none of them being Petitioners.

4th the Great Confusion & heart Burning it will Raise by & with Som (if not amongst the whole) to be forced agst their wills to that they never desired, and will So greatly prejudice them and their Estates.

5th The Respondents under their present circumstances & the Circumstances of the Petitioners think they are not yet able to support and maintain the necessary Charges of a p^{ar}ish.

Wherefore they humbly Pray the Prayer of the Petition may not be Granted. But if the Hon^{ble} Court Shall see good to indulge the Petitioners with a Grant of a new Precinct according to the Bounds in said V^ote of y^e 22nd Feb.

Then your Respondents Most humbly Pray the Hon^{ble} Court that their Pees & Estates may be Polled off to the old Town of Exeter, untill further order and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c

May 20th 1742

ANDREW GILMAN for himself and the other respondents afores^d

Rec^d into the Secy's office for the Province of New Hamp^{sh} the 27th May 1742.

In the House of Representatives June 24th 1742

Upon Reconsidering the Votes on the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Southwest part of Exeter for being set off a Parrish— And upon Considering the Within agreement of the Several Parties Voted That Richard Wilbur & Geo Walton Esq^r & M^r Jonⁿ Thomson be a Committee to go & View the places agreed upon by the Parties as within mentioned for the placing the New Meeting House And to fix the place where said Meeting House Shall Stand and that to be a final Conclusion And that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly for parish Powers and also that the charge of the Committee be borne and paid by the whole Society— the Committee to make their Return into the Secretarys office.

James Jeffry Cler^k Ass^t

In Council June 26th 1742

Concurr^d & John Downing Esq^r added to the above Committee.

Theo. Atkinson Secy.

Eod^o Die

In the House of Representatives the Council vote of addition Read and Concurr^d

James Jeffry cler ass^t

Eod^o Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

Report on location of a meeting house.

We Elisha Sanburn in behalf of the Petitioners for a Parrish in the Southwest part of Exeter And John Dudley on behalfe of the opposers of said Petition (excepting those Persons that live on the South Side of Exeter River) do agree That two places are proposed where to place a new meeting House for Said District viz: one place to be at the North East Corner of David Robinsons Land in said District Joining to Jonⁿ Robinsons Land the South Side of the way that goes to Crawleys falls mill Above Deer Hill mill. the other place at the South East Corner of Cap. James Levits Mowing Lot by a Gully on the North Side of the above Road and that Each party makes Choice of a man Indifferent and a third person be chosen by both parties & if they cannot agree upon the third person. Then the two persons first chosen shall make choice of a third person, and that they three prsons Say at which of the above places the Meeting House shall Stand or at any convenient place between the above two places mentioned. In Witness

of the above said agreement the parties above named Each for the parties he Represents have hereunto Set their hands this 23^d June 1742
 Elisha Sanborn
 John Dudley

Brintwood's Petition about the Lines of the Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened September the 14th 1742.

Humbly Shews

Joseph Leavit & Elisha Sanborn both of the Parish of Brintwood in the Province of New Hampshire & as Agents for Said Parish.

That the Inhabitants of said Parish Are in an unsettled Condition & Labour under Considerable difficulty notwithstanding the favour & Indulgence of the General Court in making them a Parish which arises from the uncertainty of the Boundaries on the Lower part of said Parish next to Exeter Town. For as the Line which Divides said Parish from said Town is to begin at the Head of New Market Line & then to Run South to Exeter River making near a Right Angle with new market Line and the head of that Line is not sufficiently Ascertained it makes the said Dividing Line uncertain and the Said Parish of Brintwood will be Longer or Shorter according as the said Line shall be Settled which Considerably affects the Inhabitants thereof & the affairs of the Parish and Especially with Regard to fixing the Meeting house & other matters Relating thereunto. That the Parties Interested cannot agree of themselves in the Premises Wherefore the said agents Humbly Pray that a Committee may be appointed by the General Assembly with sufficient authority to ascertain the said Boundaries of the Said Parish of Brintwood as soon as may be by fixing & Running the Said Line of New Market and all other Lines necessary to the end aforesaid for the better Regulation of the affairs of said Parish & preventing Differences & Disputes between the said Parishes & the Town of Exeter atas' or that the same may be done in such other method & as soon as to the Wisdom & Goodness of the General Assembly shall seem meet.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

JOSEPH LEAVIT
 ELISHA SANBORN

In the House of Representatives Sept. 17th 1742

The within Petition Read: and Voted That the Prayer of the Peti-

tion be Granted in the following manner viz: That Capt. Icabod Roby Mr John Sanborn and Cap^t Nathaniel Ealy be a Committee to Run & mark out the Boundary Lines Between Exeter old Parrish and New Market and Between Exeter Old psish And Brentwood and that they make Return of theire doing therein & present a Plan of the Lines they Run how they have Markt out the Boundaries to the General Assembly next Thursday if the Assembly be then Sitting (if not) then on the third day of the Sitting of the Gen^l Assembly at their next Sessions, for acceptance and that all the Parrishes aforesaid shall have Liberty to be heard (to shew Reason if any they have) why the Lines Shall not be Settled Agreeable to the Report of s^d Committee before it be Confirmed by the Gen^l Court. And that in case Mr. John Sanburn & Cap^t. Ealy or Either of them will not accept & go with Cap^t. Roby to Run said Lines. That then Cap^t. Roby Employ two good understanding men to be chaine men on oath to go with him & that he make Return as aforesaid the Petitioners paying the Charge.

James Jeffry Cler. Ass^t

September 17, 1742

In Council read & Concurred.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

Petition of Andrew Gilman and others.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governour and Commander in cheif in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & Representatives in General Court assembled

Humbly Sheweth the Subscribers hereunto Inhabitants of the Parish of Brintwood having for some years past Erected a meeting house for the Public worship of God in the most Suitable place for us that live on the North Side of the river and have also Carry'd on the Publick worship in it at our own Cost and in as much as the moving said house or our being obliged to move the Same or pay towards the Erecting a New Meeting house further up into said Parish would be a great hardship as well as cost unto us Several of us Living two miles & upwards from the present meeting house, Wherefore we humbly pray your Excellency and this hon^{ble} Court will in your Great Wisdom take our Case under your wise Consideration and Grant us Liberty to Continue to Carry on the worship of God in the present meeting house that we may be free from all charges and Duties to any other house that Shall be built and that we may be set off as a particular District with such other priviledges and by Such boundaries as your Excellency and this hon^{ble} Court in your Great wisdom shall see meet to Grant us, And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray &c.

Dated at Brintwood Nov^r 16th 1742.

Andrew Gilman
 Nicholas Dudley
 Timothy Leavitt
 Daniel Wormall
 Bangaman Gilman
 Jonathan Gilman
 Samuel Stevens
 Jinerah Gilman
 Thomas Mudget
 Samuel Edgerly
 Humphrey Wilson
 Stephen Leavitt
 Thor Dudley Junr.
 Nicklous Smeth
 Darby Kally
 Willi Bean
 Edward Colebold
 Edward Thing
 Andrew Doanar
 John Mudget
 Moses Jewett
 Josiah Thing
 John Dudley

John George
 Jeremiah Bean
 Jonathan Thing
 Samuel Smith
 John Morgin
 Edward Colebold Jr.
 Nicklous Dudley Juner
 John Quimby
 Jonathan Dudley
 Haley Stevens
 Sarah Gorden
 John Leavitt
 Joshua Bean
 Ithiel Clifford
 Mavrick Gilman
 Jonathan Stevens ?
 Antipas Gilman
 Masey Dudley
 Samuel Dudley Jun.
 Mathes Bean
 John Odlen Jun.
 John Quimbe Jun.

In the House of Representatives 1742.

the within Petition Read and Voted that the Petitioners (at their own cost) serve the Selectmen of Brentwood with a Copy of this Petition and the votes thereon and y^e they appear the 3^d day of the Sitting of the Gen^l Ass^y after the 25th day of December next to shew cause (if any they have) why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted

James Jeffry Cler Ass^y

Prov. N. Hamp—

Nov. 23rd 1742

the above note of the House read & Concurred
 Theod Atkinson Secy.

Prov New
 Hamp } Nov. 24th 1743

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

In the House of Representatives May the 24th 1743

the within Petition and their opponents heard by their Council the House having Considered thereof. Voted That this Petition and also a Petition signed Joseph Thing & Peter Thing & ten others Desiring to be admitted to Joyne with the within Petitioners be both Dismissed

James Jeffry Cler Ass^y

Brentwood to pay Prov^l Tax to Exeter.

Whereas the new parish of Brentwood in the Town of Exeter has been Set off from the old Town of Exeter Since the Proportioning the Towns &c. in this Province has been made—And the Warrant from the Treasurer came directed to the Select men of Exeter for the Prov. Tax w^{ch} Included the Poles & Estates of those persons & Estates in Brentwood and since they have been sett off they Refuse to pay Exeter Constables their Proportion of the Prov^l Tax which is like to cause a difference between the Town and parrish—For prevention whereof Voted That the Poles & Estates belonging to said parish of Brentwood pay

their Proportion of the Province Tax as they are already Assesed by the Select men of Exeter for the Present yeare, To the Constables who have the Warrants to collect the same and for the future that Brintwood Joyn with the Town of Exeter in making their Province Rates till otherwise ordered by the Gen^l Assembly and that an act be drawn up accordingly.

James Jeffry Cler Assⁿ

25- 9th mo 1742

In Council Nov 25th 1742

read & concurrd

Theodore Atkinson Secy

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

Copy of a report of a Comittee ab^t Brintwood meeting House.

Prov^{nc} New } Pursuant to an act of the Gen^l Court Bareing Date
hamp^{sh} } the 26th Day of June 1742.
Portsmth Feb } Wee the Subscribers being appointed by s^d act as a
1st 1742-3 } Committee to Survey and View the parrish of Brintwood
in the Town Ship of Exeter in the province aforesaid To See where the Most convenient and Comodious place is for the Erecting of a Meeting house for the accomdation of the aforesaid parrish, according to the power and authority given us by the aforesaid act Wee have veiwed all parts of said parrish as was shew'd by the Committee appointed by Vote of the parrish aforesaid to attend and shew us the Several parts of said parrish and Inhabitants. Wee doe therefore adjudge & Determine that a Certain peice of Land call'd or known by the Name of Capt. James Levitts Lott that Lyes upon the North side of the Road or high way that Leads from Deer hill mill to Crawlys Falls Mill upon the Westerly side of the Gully att the Easterly Corner of said Lott is the most convenient place according to the best of our judgm^t and shall be the spott for the setting the meeting house on, Which wee give as our Judgm^t and Determination under our hands the Day above Said

John Downing }
Geo. Walton } Committee
Jonathan Thompson }

At a Legal parish meeting held at Brintwood on Monday February the 19 1742-3 Voted Mr. timothy Leavitt moderator of s^d meeting at the same meeting it was voted that Jeremiah Bean & Joseph Leavit be chosen to agree with the man that owns the Land where the Committee hath Determin'd a place for a meeting house in s^d parish & also to take a Deed of s^d Land for the use of the parish of the afores^d man If he see fit to give a deed at the same meeting it was voted that John Roberds John Marsh Jeremiah Rowe James Roberdson Daniel Sandburn be Chosen a Committee to Imply men to procure timber for a meeting house in s^d parish & all other Stuff that is necessary for building s^d house in s^d parish. at the same meeting it was voted that the meeting house in s^d parish be builded by way of Rate sixty feet long & forty feet wide, at the same meeting voted that the same Committee have power to agree with Carpenders & other Labouring men in s^d parish to build the frame of the s^d meeting house upon the lot that the said committee hath appointed for setting said house, at the same

meeting voted that the frame of said meeting house be Completed workman Like fit to Raise by the tenth day of June next Insuing, at the same meeting voted that Every Labouring man & yooke of oxen have Seven Shillings pr. day Each & find himself for every days work he is out about s^d frame or house.

A true Copy taken out of Brintwood parish Record

Attest Joseph Leavit parish Clerk.

Joint Petition, &c.

Province of)
New Hampshire }

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governour in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire aforesaid. To his Majesties Councill and house of Representatives in General assembly Convened.

Whereas there is a Petition of Andrew Gilman and others now lying before your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} Court Praying that your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} Court will in your great Wisdom take their Case under your wise Consideration and Grant them Liberty to Continue to Carry on the Worship of God in the Present Meeting house that they may be free from all charges and Duties to any other house that shall be built and that they may be set off as a Perticular District with Such other Priviledges and by Such Boundaries as your Excellency and this Hon^{ble} Court in your Great Wisdom Shall see meet to Grant them. To which said Petition our names are not affixed and we being Freeholders or Inhabitants within the Parish of Brintwood and are Desireous to have the Prayer of the said Petition Granted (if Consistant with your Excellencys & your honours Pleasure) Do Earnestly pray that we may be Received as Joynt Petitioners with them and Deemed as Such— And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c.

Dated at Brintwood May 10th 1743

Sameuel Thing
Nicolas Gordon
Joseph Thing
Nath^l Webster
Jona Dudley
Joseph Hoghit

John Holan
Caleb Brown
Ebenezer Towle
Daniel Quimbe
Joseph Thing Jun.
Peter Thing

Province of)
New Hampshire)

To his Excellency B Wintworth Esqr. Capt. Governor in and over his maj^{ty} Province New Hampshire. To his maj^{ty} Council and house of represent^{ts} in General Assembly Convened.

Whereas there [is] a Petition of Andrew Gilman and others now Lying before your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} Council Praying &c & Bearing Date Desember the 10 1743 to which our names are not in Intfix'd & we being Free holders or Inhabitants within the Parish of Brintwood and are Desirous to have the Prayers of the s^d Petition Granted if Consistent with your Excellency and your Hon^{ble} Council and house of represent^{ts} Pray that we may be Rec'd as Joynt Petitioners with them and Deemed as such & your Pititioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

John Leavitt
Ithiel Clifford

Mav^s Gilman
Noclos Smith

Province of)
New Hampshire)

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief In and over His majesties Province of New Hampshire And to the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Councill and House of Representatives In General Court Assembled.

Humbly Shews The Subscribers Inhabitants of the Parish of Brintwood in the Province aforesaid That they having at their own Cost and Charge Erected a house for the Publick Worship of God in said Parish— Do Therefore Humbly Request your Excellency and The Hon^{ble} Court To Enable us by an act of the Hon^{ble} Court To Poll off ourselves our Familys and Estates and such others as shall Think meet to Joyn with us in Carrying on the Publick Worship in said house And that they may be Exempt from Charge towards Supporting any other house or Minister in said Parish besides their own. And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray.

Dated December 10th 1743

Andrew Gilman
Daniel Wormall
Benj^r Gilman
Nicolas Dudley
Nicolas Dudley Junr.
Samuel Stevens
Jerem^s Gilman
Jonathan Gilman
Haley Steven-

Wido Mare Dudley
Widow Sarah Gorden
Josiah Thing
Timothy Leavitt
Thomas Flanders
John Yonge
Edward Colcord
John Dudley
Stephen Leavitt

Edward Thing
Daniel Quimbe
Humphrey Wilson
Jonathan Quimbe
Samuel Dudley
Samuel Smith
Jeremiah Bean
Samuel Edgerly
Caleb Brown

John Holon
Martha Been
Jonathan Modget
Jo-lua Been
John Morgan Junr.
Darbe Kely
Jonathan Thing
Antipas Gilman
Joseph Hoit

In the House of Representatives X^r the 15th 1743

The above Petition Read and Voted that the Petitioners at their proper Cost & Charge Serve the Select men of Exe^r and the Select men of Brentwood with a Coppy of the Petition: and Votes thereon: to appeare the third day of the Sitting of the Gen^l Assembly after the first day of April next to show cause if any they have why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass^{ns}

In Council Eodem Die
read & non concurred

Theodore Atkinson Sec.

And voted That the Prayer of the Petition be granted and that any Rateable Person or Persons that are now Inhabitants within the s^d Parish of Brintwood may Joyn with the Petitioners Provided they enter their name with the Clerk of the Parish on or before the 25th Day of Febr^y next & that any Person that shall settle in the s^d Parish within Three years may also have the Liberty of Joyning with the Petitioners by Entering their names with the Clerk of that Parish and that an act be Drawn up accordingly

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

In the House of Representatives X^r 16th 1743

the above vote of Councill Read & non concurred & Voted That the Petitioners at their proper Cost and charge Serve the Select men of Brentwood with a Coppy of this Petition and the Votes thereon: to appeare the week after next (if the Gen^l Ass^{ns} be then sitting) if not then to appeare the third day of the Sitting of the Gen. Ass^{ns} after that time to shew cause why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted-

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass^{ns}

Dec 17th 1743.

In Council Read & Concurred

Theodore Atkinson Sec

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

In the House of Represen^{ts} X^r 30th 1743

the Petitioners and the Respond^{ts} heard & the House having Considered thereof Voted That the Said Petⁿ be Dismist

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass^{ns}

Remonstrance, &c.

Province of)
New Hamp^{ts})

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of New Hamp^{ts} And to the Hon^{ble} his Maj^{ties} Councill And House of Representatives In General Court Assembled.

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Parish of Brentwood in the Province aforesaid Having been Served with a Copia of a Petition of a Number of Inhabitants of said Brentwood Dated Dec^r 10th 1743 who have Petitioned this Hon^{ble} Court to enable them by an act of s^d Court to Poll off themselves & families and Estiats & such others as shall think meet to Joyn with them in carrying on the Publick Worship of God at a certain house they have erected in s^d Parrish at their own Cost and Charge— And being served with the Votes on s^d Petition & to appear in s^d Court to show Cause why the Prayer of the s^d Petition may not be granted our Reasons why said Petition may not be granted are as followeth.

1st If their Petition should be granted it would be very destructive both to them & us Neither of us being able to Pay the Publick & Private charges Necessarily Arising in s^d Parish the which we should be able to Do should the Parish & Inhabitants be Kept together.

2^d Should their Petition be granted It would Put the Parish to More confusion and Difficulty about seting the Meeting houses than ever has been yet & besides should their Request be granted there are many families in s^d Parish as they say which lives convenient to poll off some to Kingston & some to Epping for the benefit of going to meeting which purpose to petition s^d Court to poll off also If this Petition be granted.

3^d Inasmuch as that after three of the Gentleman who were appointed in the Charter for s^d Parish to State the place where y^e meeting house should Stand had appointed the place there was a unanimous Vote in s^d Parish at a legal Parish Meeting to build a meeting house on the spot appointed by s^d gentlemen & then chose a Com^{tee} to take care & to build s^d house which Committee agreed with men to build it at the Parish's Cost & it is now framed Ready to be Raised but the Present Selectmen Refusing to Raise Money by way of Rate to pay the charge the men that did the work Kept out of there honest due. And they Petition^r as we Suppose think to Escape paying their part of the charge towards building s^d meeting house by there Polling off And several of them being of the first Petitioners for s^d Parish.

We hope that by these objections and What may be further offered on in gen^l your Honours Will Pleas to deny there Request. And that and End May be speedily put to our long troubles we labour under.

Dated Dec^r 26th 1743.

John Roberds
John Marsh
Nath^l Foisham
Benjamin Fifield
John Brown

Biley Harde
Nicklas Gordon
Jedediah Prescutt
James Young
Thomas Gording

Jeannet Bean sen.
 Moses Fifield
 Williman Graves
 Jeames Robinson
 Hanary Marsh
 John Folsam
 David Bean
 Benjamin Veazey
 John Roberds Jun.
 Baniman Roburds
 Ezekiel Smith
 Robert Brown
 Job Keniston
 James Dudley Jun.
 Daniel Sanborn
 Geog Robt:s
 Elisha Sainborn
 Joseph Leavitt
 Daniel Gorden
 Daniel Giles
 Daniel Giles Jun
 John Giles
 David Smith
 Jeames Marsh
 Biley Lyford

Jonathan Smith
 Benjamin Rogers
 Thomas Critchett
 Isaac Clefford
 Jacob Hobs
 Joel Judkins
 Jehial Smith
 Zechriah Judkins
 Samuel Rogers ?
 Robert Young
 Ambros Hinds
 Charles Young
 John James
 Nicholas Dolloff
 Jeremiah Row
 John Mudget
 Jonathan Robinson
 Jonathan Talen?
 Samuel Young
 John Bean
 Benj: Scribner
 Joseph Moody
 Edmund Roberts
 Nicholas Gorden Jun.

VOLUME III.

EXETER TO JEFFERSON.

EXETER—(continued).

Petition of Andrew Gilman and others about a meeting-house, 1743.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour and Commander in Chiet in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire—

And to the Honour his Majesties Councill and Representatives In Generall Court assembled—

We the subscribers Frecholders and Inhabitants of the Northerly part of the Parish of Brintwood in the Province aforesaid Do Humbly Crave Leave of your Excellency and honours to Lay this our Humble Remonstrance of our Distressed Circumstances before your Excellency and honours as follows Viz :

Many of us Living four or five miles Distant from Exeter Meeting house have Attended the Publick Worship of God at that house for many years past with Great difficulty and our families Encreasing made it much more Diflicult Especially in the Winter Spring & Fall of the year—

Wherefore about eight years ago we with several of the Southerly part of said Parish Erected a house for the Publick worship of God in the most suitable place as they thought. and we Now do think to carry on the Publick Worship in and accordingly at our own Charge have carry'd on the same in the winter, Spring and fall of the year ever since as we had for four years or thereabouts before Erecting said house carry'd on the Publick Worship in a Private house Standing near our Present Meeting house—

And about Last February was twelve month the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Southerly part of Brintwood aforesaid Petitioned the Town of Exeter aforesaid to be sett off as a Parish Contrary to the will and Desire of most of us. and said Town of Exeter Granted their said Petition Not with standing many of us Dissented therefrom. And their said Petition being granted they afterwards Apply'd to your Excellency and honours for a Charter for said Parish which was Granted them Contrary to our Desire and Greatly to our hurt— And we also having Earnestly Petition'd your Excellency &

honours that we might be Permitted to Continue to Carry on the Publick worship of God in our said house and to be set off by such Boundaries as your Excellency & honours should think meet and be Exempted from all Charge towards the meeting house and ministry in the Southerly Part of said Parish &c: as by our Petition Lying before your Excellency and Honours in your hon^{ble} Court may appear which Petition the hon^{ble} House of Representatives have seen meet to Dismiss—And also your Excellency & honours having appointed a Committee of four Gentlemen two out of Each house to prefix the place where the meeting house ought to Stand—Three of said Gentlemen have been and made return, but is accounted voy'd by your Excellency & honours, For that the Committee Did not all joyn in their Returne and for which Reason our Petition was also Dismissd. wherefore our Case at Present seems very hard and Difficult we having been at such cost to Erect our said house and to Maintain Preaching in it hitherto. and the minister also who hath hitherto Preached to us being at our Earnest Desire willing to Continue with us in the Ministry. If your Excellency & honours will in your great wisdom take this our Remonstrance of our Difficult Circumstances in our Present meeting house not being Establish'd and our aforesaid Petition not being Granted and the great charges and Difficulties we hitherto have and Still do Labour under, under your Excellency and Honours wise consideration and be pleas'd to grant us Relief herein as in your great wisdom you shall see meet &c

As in Duty Bound we your Excellencies & honours Most Obedient, Humble Servants shall Ever Pray &c—

Dated at Brintwood June 27th Anno Domini 1743.

Andrew Gilman
Humphry Wilson
Edward Colcord
Nicholas Dudley
Antipas Gilman
Timothy Leavitt
Benjamin Gilman
Samuel Edgerley
Samuel Dudley
Jonathan Thing
Stephen Leavitt
Josiah Thing
Jonathan Hadley
Nicolas Dudley Jun
Jeremiah Bean
John Dudley

John George
Edward Thing
Daniel Quimby
Sarah Gordon
John Leavitt
Samuel Stevens
Joseph Hoyt
Joshua Been
John Morgin
John Holon
Zekil Clafor
Samuel Smith
Daniel Wormall
Marthy Been
Haley Svrens
Jeremy Gilman, Jun

In the House of Representatives July 1st 1743.

The within Petition Read & Considered on & Voted That Eleazer Russel Esq Mark Langdon Gent & Mr. Noah Barker of Stratham be a comitee to Joyn such as the Hon^{ble} the Council shall appoint to go to the Parish of Brentwood and View the Situation of said Parrish, &

see whether it will be most convenient for the Inhabitants thereof to be Divided Into two Parrishes or whether the whole shall meet at the Meeting House already Built for some Limited time or to Conclude upon some other method that they shall think to be for the best good of the said p^{ish}, In order for their being settled in Peace, and that they make Report to the Gen^l Ass^m the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Ass^m at their next sessions And that the Petitioners be at the charge of the Committee and that the Petitioners serve the Sellet men of Brentwood with a Coppy of this Petⁿ & Votes that they may Notifie the p^{ish} of these proceedings - and that those that will dispute what is acted may appeare at the day above said.

James Jeffry Cler^k Ass^{bl}

Eodem Die

In Council read & concurrd & the Above s^d Comittee hereby established & Impowerd for the End Above s^d

Theod. Atkinson, Secry

Eodem Die

Assented to.

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of sundry persons in Exeter about support of a Minister among themselves.—1744.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Comander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in Council,

Humbly Sheweth. Andrew Gilman Nicholas Dudley and Humphry Wilson. Freeholders and Inhabitants of the North-erly part of the Parrish of Brentwood on Behalf of themselves and theire distressed Neighbours, and friends Living within the Northerly part of said Parrish, who have once and againe been supplicating v^r Excellency with the other branch of the General Assembly for our being sett off from the other part of said Parrish, and that wee might Injoy the liberty of carry- ing on the Publick Worship of God in our present Meeting House free from any Charge to be Laid on us by the other part of Said P^{ish}, and in as much as our Grievances Still remaine unredrest, and fearing the daily approches of Greater by unreasonable Taxes &c—

We your humble Petitioners, for our selves and our dis- tressed Brethren and Neighbours, would therefore humbly crave Leave from y^r Excellencie once more to lay our dis- tressed circumstances under your wise consideration and hum- bly pray that your Excellency will be pleased to think of some speedy way to set us off from the other part of said Parish, and from the charges thereof. That we may still continue the Publick Worship of God in our own Meeting House, and not be forced to go to the Meeting House, which some of the other part of the Parrish would have us, which we could not do (in time of war) without the utmost hazzard of the Lives

of our Selves & Famillyes. The place where their meeting House is propos'd to be sett, being in the midst of a Great Swamp, and verry hazardous and also difficult to go to either in Spring or Fall of the yeare— We your humble Petitioners most humbly leave our selves and our distressed circumstances to the Pitty and compassion of your Excellency, humbly praying your Pitty and Compassion and the heareing and Granting this our Petition. as in your Wisdome you shall see most meet—

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c
Dated May 26th 1744.

ANDREW GILMAN
NICHOLAS DUDLEY
HUMPHRY WILSON

In behalfe of the rest that have now a Petition lying before the Gen^l Ass^y—

Petition to be exempted from support of a minister not of their choice.

1744 To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Comander in Chelf in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampsh^r &c. and to the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Councill and House of Representatives. in Generall Assembly Conven'd—

The Humble Petition of a Number of the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter, Humbly Sheweth that att the Annuall Meeting held in Exeter in the year 1743: The Town did att s^d Meeting proceed (in a hasty and resolute Manner as wee Conceive contrary to the mind of most of your Petitioners who timely enterd their dissents) to chuse a Committee, Absolutely to agree with, and Settle Mr Woodbridge Odlin as a Colleague with his father in the Ministry which was effected by s^d Committee, and the Gentleman soon settled: which being very greivous to us & wee most of us apprehending that neither wee nor our households would be likely to proffit under his Ministry therefore could not receive him as our minister and have for our own and households Spirituall Edification supported a Gospell Minister to preach to us upwards of a year, and have been Obliged to pay our proportion toward the Settlement, and Salary of S^d Gentleman. notwithstanding: and as most of us have tho't it our duty so to do, wee still look upon it our duty for our own, and our households & others Spirituall Edification to settle a Gospell Minister amongst us and in order thereto have erected a meeting House for the Publick worship of God att our own cost, and having already

made application to the town for releif, but they granting o us none: wee tho't it our duty to make application to this Hon^{ble} Court for relief, therefore wee humbly pray that your Excellency. and Hon^{rs} will take our case under your wise consideration. and grant us relief in the following manner Viz. by exempting us our households and Estates. and all those persons and familys with their Estates. whose hearts the Lord shall Incline to join with us. within a limmited time to be prefixt by your Excellency. and your Honours from paying any thing to the further support of the now settled ministers, or those that may Succeed them; provided wee support a Gospell Minister amongst ourselves: or to grant us relief in any other way that you in your great Wisdom shall think best: And if your Excellency and Hon^{rs} should think it reasonable That wee have some allowance made us for the money wee have already paid. toward the settlement and support of s^d Gentleman. and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c—

Exeter July 18th 1744.

John Lord
Sam Gilman
Nehemiah Gilman
Daniel Smith
Josiah Gilman
Daniel Thing
Benj^r Thing
Jonathan Gilman
John Leavitt
Wadleigh Cram
Daniel Gilman
Josiah Ladd
Dudley James
James Dudley
Peter Gilman
Daniel Folsom
Trueworthy Gilman
Moses Gilman. Jun
John Gilman 3^r
Samuell Dallof
Jon^r Judgskins
Charles Rundlet
John Sloper
James Thosten
John Dudley
Theophilus Smith
John Phillips

Thomas Lord
Samuel Noris
Nich^r Gilman. Jr
Thomas Dean
Abnar Thustin
Moses Swett
Robert Lights
Sam^l Gilman. Jr
John Dean
Richard Smith
Nicholas Gordin
Jonathan Gilman, Jr
John Light
Stephen Thing
Jeremiah Bean
Richard Smith. Jr
John Looze. Jun
John Haines
Eben^r Sinkler
Jon^s Young
Benjamin Lary
True Dudley
Joshep Smith
Abner Dollof
George Dutch
Joshua Foulsham
John Robinson. Jun

In the House of Representatives July 19th 1744.

The within Petition, Read, and Voted that the Petitioners at their own cost and Charge Serve the Selectmen of the Old Town of Exeter with a Coppy of this Petition, and the Votes thereon, That the said Selectmen may call the said Town together to choose Agents (if they see cause) to appear the second day of the sitting of the General Ass^y

after the Last day of July curr^t to shew Cause (if any they have) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be Granted.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m

In Council July 20th 1744.

read & Concurred

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Eod^m Die-

Assented to-

B. WENTWORTH.

At a meeting of the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter holden at the town house in Exeter

July 30th 1744.-----

Voted, Maj^r Nich^s Gilman mod^r of said meeting

Voted, that their be agents chosen to Repersent the town in General Court or Assembly

Voted That Mr Nich^s Peryman, Mr James Gilman & Zebulon Giddings be agents for that end

Voted That they or either of them to appear in General Court at the next seting to shue cause why the Petition of a number of this Town should not be Granted and to Defend the town against the same-

A Copy- Zebulon Giddinge, Town Clerk.

Agreement of parties.

October y^e 15th 1744.

According To the advice of His Excelency we a number of Booth Peartie in the Parish of Brintwood have Descorsed on our afair Con-searning an agreement-

And the upper People Desire stell to stand by the first Act in making the Parish. Notwith-standing they whose Names are under written are willing Rather than to be devided that the meeting house should be sit by way of Rate Viz, As Near the Senter of the width of the Parich on the Middle Rode as may be and as Near the Botim Line as that one half the money according to the Rate this year shall be Raised Above it—

Reuben Smith
Benj^a Veasey
James Young
Jeremiah Bean
Jon^a Robinson
James Robinson

Elisha Samborn
Benj^a Fifield
Daniel Samborn
John Roberts
Jerr^a Rowe
Moses Jewet

Petition in Answer to that praying for exemption, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Governor and Commander in Cheif in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, and to the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened-

The Agents for the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter in the Province aforesaid Legally Chosen at their meeting he'd at Exeter aforesaid on the thirtieth day of July

1744 to make answer to and Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition of a Number of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter—Pefeared to your Excellency and this hon^{ble} Court (on the 18th day of July 1744.) may not be Granted.

Imprimis The said Petitioners have been Guilty of a very Great Mistake in setting forth in their Petition the Hasty & Resolute manner (as they conceiv'd) of chusing a committee absolutely to agree with and Settle M^r Woodbridge Odlin as a Colleague with his Father in the Ministry, which they Say was Effected by Said Committee and the Gentleman Soon Settled— We Humbly Crave Leave to Reply and Say that the said meeting (being on the 28th day of March 1743.) was carried on by the Freeholders and Inhabitants (Excepting the Petitioners) in as Moderate & Deliberate a manner as annual meetings have been usually carry'd on in, and the choice of the said Committee was made after a mature consideration and Deliberation of the Voters then Present (as we apprehend) by a very Great Majority and sometime after one of the said committee (viz) Mr Benjamin Thing refusing to act and the others not thinking it Safe to act without him (being chosen to Act Joynly) upon their Representation of it to the Selectmen of said Town another Town meeting was called on the thirteenth day of June then next to see if the Town would proceed in Chusing another in his room or give power to the Remainder of the said Committee or the Major part of them to act in the Premises—At which meeting after Due consideration of the Voters then Present they Voted that the Remainder of the said committee or the Major part of them should have full power to act in and about the Premises: And the Gentleman was not ordain'd untill the Twenty Eighth of September following Waiting that time in hopes that many of the Principal men of the Now Petitioners would have been Reconcil'd to the Gentleman whom they by their request. with Sundry others on the 4th of January 1741 by a paper under their hands approv'd of and Pray'd his assistance with his hon^l Father in the ministry and thereby prevail'd with him to refuse a call that was about to be made him at the Town of Biddeford, where he had for some time preached to the Great Satisfaction of that People, and also at many other Places as well as in our Town too well known to be Denied by the Petitioners, and his Life and Doctrine being agreeable To us the Town Proceeded as before—And what moved many of the Petitioners to be prejudiced against him we know not.— For at the ordination there were Twelve Churches by their Elders and Delegates Call'd to advise and Assist in the ordination before whom many of the now Petitioners made their Objec-

tions in writing against their Proceeding to said Ordination and were Patiently heard by the said Elders and Delegates, who after serious Deliberation on the said Objections Judged the same to be Insufficient and so Proceeded to the Ordination since which several of the Petitioners have joyn'd in Communion with our Church and two of them (viz:) Mr: Benjamin Thing and Mr John Light. neither they nor their Familyes have forsaken the Ordinances, and Major Thomas Deane, another of the Petitioners who had for some time left the Communion of the Church upon his Declaring that he was Convinced that it was his Duty to Returne to the Ordinance of the Lords Supper and to Joyn in communion with this church hath been Lately Re admitted to and Partaken of the Ordinance

2^d We Crave Leave to Observe that some of the now Petitioners Joyn'd with others in a Petition to the Select men for their Incering in their warrant for the annual meeting to Consider of and Vote if they tho' meet the Choice of a Committee to call and agree with the said M Woodbridge Odlin to assist his hon' Father as a colleague in the ministry with him &c-

3^d We would Crave Leave to Observe that the reasons that Several of the Petitioners who were church members Gave by a paper under their hands Dated May 14th 1743. for their with drawing at first was "That they had Observed with Grief the Conduct of our Rev'd Pastor Mr John Odlin with regard to the work of Gods Glorious Grace in the Late out-pouring of his Spirit Amongst us of which they Trusted many of them had been the Subjects, and their being Convinced in their Consciences that our said Pastor and Church Did not treat the same as a work of Sovereign Rich Grace, but that the method of their Late Conduct, the Petitioners apprehended had been, and Continued in Opposition thereto- in as much as the Instrument it had pleased God to make use of in carrying it on and the Subjects of it are Discourtenanced" they meaning as we apprehend thereby, that our Rev^d Pastor and Church Refused to allow such of the Itinerant Preachers to Preach in the meeting house, who did not first wait on our rev^d Pastor and give him Satisfaction as to their Principles and Doctrine, & also that he did not comply with the Irregularities of the Times, and also as to the method of the Settlement of Mr Woodbridge Odlin which wee apprehend was Right-

4th We further Observe that (as we humbly Conceive) the calling & Settlement of M Woodbridge Odlin was agreeable to the Laws of this Province, & the usage of the churches in this Government: much the Greater part of the Town being Sensible of their need they Stood in of an assistant to his hon' Father by reason of his age as well as his bodily Infirmitys

and also having had full and Satisfactory proof of the Said Mr Woodbridge Odlin's Life Conversation and Doctrine—

5^{thly} We Humbly Conceive that the Prayer of the Petition if Granted Will Ten'd Greatly to the Prejudice not only of this church but also of all the other churches of this Government and will be a manifest breach of the Law of this Province and Contrary to the Constitution of the churches in the Country for any small number of Persons who through unreasonable Prejudice shall desire this Hon^l Court to Exempt themselves, their Familys and Estates from paying toward the support of the Present settled ministers or those that succeed them when the Law of this Province in that case already made & provided obliges them so to do, unless the Petitioners should so change their Principles in Religion that the Act of Parliament would Free them from the same which we apprehend is not the Case of the Present Petitioners— Neither have the Petitioners, Either before the Council Present at the ordination, or the Council Lately call'd by this church supported their Objections against the calling & ordaining of Mr Woodbridge Odlin. And the offence Taken at the settlement of the Rev. Mr: Woodbridge Odlin under the Notion of his being an opposer of the work of God— the said Last Council in their Result say that therein they tho^t they (meaning the withdrawing brethren, some of the Petitioners) had cast an undue Reflection upon him— And as to the Validity and Regularity of his Settlement, they found it was agreeable to the majority both of Town and Church and approv'd and ratified by a Venerable Council of Churches call'd by this church— and the said Council Further adjudg'd that the agriev'd brethrens calling a Council at the Time and in the manner they did, was an uncommon Step of Proceedure, and that this church have been in the way of their Duty and have Done no more than they had a right to do in calling them as a Council without the agrieved brethren, They being Desir'd to joyn in calling them—

6th We Humbly Conceive that the conclusion of the Prayer of the Petitioners is absurd unreasonable and unjust in Desiring to have some allowance made them for the money they have already paid towards the settlement and support of the said Gentleman, meaning (as we suppose) our Present Ministers— as to the settlement of the Rev^d Mr John Odlin very few if any of the Petitioners paid any thing towards it, and as to the settlement and support of the Rev^d Mr Woodbridge Odlin, Several of the Petitioners having Lately come into the Town have paid Little or Nothing towards it and some of them not in the Rates untill this year—

Lastly— We Humbly Crave Leave to Observe to your Ex-

cellency and honours That the Principal motives (as we conceive) that the Petitioners have used in their Petition in order to Induce this hon^{ble} Court to grant the Prayer of their Petition are these two (viz) "First that they have Supported a Gospel Minister to preach to them upward of a year" and 2^{dly} that they "have at their own Cost Erected a meeting house"—

And as to the first we humbly conceive that they will be under Some Difficulty to prove that they have Supported a Gospel Minister and we conceive that their Separating from the Established Ministry of The Town without Just cause was Evil in itself and the Evil Example thereof has Drawn Many belonging to the Neighbouring Towns & Parishes away to their Separate house and to Leave their own Ministers which thing if Countenanced by this Hon^{ble} Court will be a Leading Example to Others, and be a means of bringing this Province into the utmost Confusion both by Dividing Familiys and Separating friends and Christian Societies—

And 2^{dy} as to their Erecting a meeting house (as they say in their Petition) at their own cost, We humbly Conceive that any number of Gentlemen may build an house at their own Cost if they please: But for this Hon^{ble} Court who have the Religious as well as Civil Interests of this Province under their wise Care, to set it apart for the Publick worship of God, to the Disturbance and breaking up of the Neighbouring Churches and the Publick peace of the Government, we humbly Conceive would be a Great Grief and burden to the people in General and bring the Province into Such confusion as will Render the Inhabitants unable to Support the Charge of the Government.

For These reasons with what others we shall crave Leave to Lay before your Excellency and Honours, We Humbly hope This Hon^{ble} Court will be Induced not to Grant the Prayer of the said Petition but to Dismiss the same—

NICH. PERRYMAN
JAMES GILMAN
ZEBULON GIDDINGE

Replication to the foregoing.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov & Command^{er} in Chief in & Over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Represent^{atives} in Gener^{al} Assembly Conven'd—

The Reply of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of y^e Town of Exeter who have Petitioned to be Exempted from

paying towards the support of the ministry in said Town &c. to the answer of the Agents of s^t Town to their Petition—

May it please your Excellency & the other the Hon^{ble} Branches of the Legislature The fav^r granted your Petition^r with regard to an opportunity of making a written Reply to the answers made to their Petition in behalf of the Town gives them Encouragem^t to hope for success in the matter under Debate as the merit & Weight of w^h Shall be offer^d can in this way be much better Consider'd

Your Petition^r would beg leave Humbly to Observe in General, that in this affair as they are not Influenced by sinister views, corrupt or vicious Principles nor any but Conscientious motives their Case claims the closer attention & greater tenderness— and as they are Sincere in their Principles which relate to this matter so they would be just in their Reasonings upon it: & should therefore have been glad to have avoided entering into the consideration of several points & matters of fact moved in the said answer because they will be a Diversion & a Digression from the Main Question— but could not prevail with the Agents to wave them. To come then to the s^t answer & Reply in as brief & clear a manner as we can by following the Several Articles thereof. We must Observe their first begins with charging the Petition^r with a mistake in Representing that the Town in Setting Mr Woodbridge Odlin proceeded in a hasty & Resolute manner: & then they go on to give an acco^t of y^e affair, the Substance of w^h is that it was carried on wth great deliberation & every step Maturely Considered: That every Person Concern'd acted their part from y^e fullest Evidence & Strongest Conviction of the Expediency of the thing & the Legality of the means. & the Like— But in this acc^t there is nothing said of the Art used first to prepare matters by prevailing on near Seventy Persons to sign a Petition to the Select men praying a proper Clause might be Inserted in the warrant for the Annual meeting 1743 & so working up the minds of the Petitioners to favour the thing before it came to be considered in Public— They also have omitted to Observe that when the Town was met & about to proceed on this affair: the Non-Petitioners or most of them made the strongest Remonstrances ag^t desiring it might be suspended for some time at least offering to supply the Desk if necessary by Subscription as they had done y^e year before hoping that a little time as it would have given greater Opportunity to have advised & proposed so it would have produced a greater unanimity of Opinion, if not terms of union & peace —They dont say a word of the Contempt wth w^h this was Rejected. & how Resolutely they proceeded as well to Vote the Raising money as chusing a Committee to Effect & carry

these designs into Execution which had been Contrived before, nor how their proposals at the second meeting were Rejected—nor that a church Com^{tee} was chosen to call assistance for the Ordination before the agreement made wth the Gentleman to be Ordain'd wth many other transactions too tedious to Recite, prove the thing to be Contrived & determined before it came to be Voted, and that those who asserted their freedom & Liberty had Reason to be dissatisfied, the whole being done before the Deacons & Standing Church committee had any notice of it only as Inhabitants of the Town, and after the Town had determined the matter & a com^{tee} chosen to agree the Terms a Proclamation was Issued under the ministers hand, appointing a Day of fasting & prayer in the Town to seek Direction, now these proceedings & much more of the like nature were Just Causes of Di-satisfaction with this Settlement, & that we might well say it was Resolute if not hasty Especially if we Consider that the Towns Committee (men chosen no Doubt with good Policy) was Impower'd to complete this agreement without making a report to the Town for their Confirmation or Approbation which is the usual way, for we think a precedent like this cant be found wth th^o by virtue of a Particular Law may be barely called Legal can by no propriety be term'd prudent & wth if ever it was done before was only done, as we Conceive it was here to serve a Sinister End—

But as to what is objected to us, that we had a hand in Calling or Inviting the Gentleman to preach in Town we Conceive there is no weight in it, for such Invitation is always understood to be in order to chusing, w^{ch} necessarily Imply's Refusing— When a Congregation Invite several Candidates, they are often call'd from other places, where they are upon probation But it was never suppos'd that such Invitation carried in it an obligation to chuse the Person Invited for where more than one Preaches before the choice, all cant be chosen, and if but one Preaches, where can be the choice— unless it be that which we have all heard of—

But we pass on—— The second article of the answer we conceive is of no Consequence in this Debate, if admitted to be true, for it only proves that some of the Petitioners are not of the same mind now wth they once were of in this Particular affair—

Nor is the third more to the point; for it only shows the Respondents have assum'd a power of Judging the hearts of those they there speak of— And as to the 4th we would only observe, that if this settlement was Legal, it will be very Difficult, if not Impossible to prove it to be agreeable to the usage of the churches in this Government.

In their 5th Article we conceive the Respond^{ts} proceed on fallacious principles & take for granted propositions which cant be proved— as that if this Petition is granted, not only this church, but all the churches in the Govern^t will be greatly prejudiced— Now where is the prejudice to the church as such if these Petitioners were dismissed— there will be a church still left, of a competent Number. Invested with the same powers & enjoying the same Privileges as they now enjoy— and if the Number desiring to be Dismissed be so small as is Represented the objection is still of Less weight— and as to Churches in General how are they like to be affected by it— no other ways than they always are by gathering a new church, when the members belong'd to any other before: and if this is of any weight it will always be an Objection, in that case as well as in this: & so there must never be but one church in a Town tho ever so Large— and the same argum^t may be always made ag^t erecting new Parishes, for the old must be hurt by the Loss of any of its Parishoners by an increase of charge on those that Remain— Again when tis said the granting this Petition would be a manifest breach of the Laws of the Province the Objection Implies that this court are to proceed only on Laws already in force that they are Restrained by them, & are only to put such Laws in Execution— which is not the case, the petitioners ask for a new Law, & apply to those who can make it— the doing of w^{ch} will no more be a breach of the old, than the making any other new Law & the same argum^t lies with Equal Reasoning ag^t making any new Law, for every Instance of that Kind in some sense alters those before in force— The Question therefore ought not to be whether the Law ask'd for will be a breach upon other Laws. But whether the End propos'd by it be good, whether it is R^e & Reasonable to be done, & in order to discover that we beg leave to observe that we take it for undoubted Truth in w^{ch} all Christians are agreed That the end of all Public worship is the Hon^r of God & the Edification of the Worshipers, that is, the Improvem^t of their minds in all christian Graces & virtues that these two are never separated, & therefore the edification of the worshipers always implies the former: That assemblies worship & care only means to attain the End. Viz the Edification of those who attend them. That this cant be done where the worship is not voluntary, for it must be in Spirit and in truth, free & sincere— That there is a great variety in the fitness of means arising from many circumstances particularly the diferent Capacities & tempers of Persons w^h may make means very fit & useful to one Person, not so to another, and that in these cases the right of Private Judgment is to be maintained more than in any, for here every

man must Judge for himself, & tis impossible another can Judge for him, and that hereupon he ought to follow the Dictates of his own Conscience—That tis every mans duty to pursue this end, as tis the Noblest & highest that can be proposed by the fittest & best means—from these principles wth are indisputable, it evidently follows, that when a man apprehends he can obtain the afores^d end better in one Congregation than in another, he ought to Join to that w^{ch} he Judges the better for that purpose, & when a number sufficient to embody in Church order have the same Judgm^t as to that point they ought to separate & embody; it then becomes their duty for it is certainly a duty to use those means we Judge fittest, for obtaining the best end: & the omission of it is the omission of a Known duty, for which Conscience will Inevitably Condemn—he that denies this must with the same breath condemn the Reformation for upon these & such like principles the Reformed Church Separated from the church of Room, who condemn'd them for it, for she mortally hated Separations— He therefore that will not allow of it in the cases here put, must if he will be consistant in his principles, Return to the mother Church from which the first Reformers separated— Now the civil Magistrates Ought to be the minister of God for good to the People, & where their greatest good is concern'd ought to give them the greatest Countenance. If it be said tis enough for such separatists to enjoy their Liberty of Separating without being Eas'd of their taxes—the answer is that would be making them purchase their Liberty of those who enjoy their own freely & is not Liberty Equally every mans right who has not forfeited it? If so no man should be oblig'd to purchase it at a dearer Rate than his neighbour, and where such a separation is made from an apprehension of duty & in Obedience to Conscience it is so far from being Just matter of Reproach or blame to the party or of offence to others, that it ought on the other hand to Receive that Countenance & approbation justly due to those who have a sense of duty & tenderness of Conscience sufficient to put them upon the performance of it—The Respond^{ts} indeed say the Petitioners are a small number of Persons, who separate thro' unreasonable prejudice & here again they suppose that true w^{ch} we deny, namely that we have no Reason for separating—for it appears to us to be duty upon such principles & arguments as have been before mentioned & therefore think ourselves free from the just imputation of prejudice, & they have no Right to judge our hearts & condemn us for Hypocrites— Beside how easy it is to charge, & to Return the charge of unreasonable prejudice. Every party in Politicks as well as Religion is exceeding apt to think all the opposition to their measures proceeds from unreason-

able Prejudice, & if men would but open their eyes they must needs see things as they do and none more apt to run Riot in this opinion than that party which is uppermost, which always supposes it self in the Right— But here it seems in this case it is quite plain there is the opinion & Result of a Council— But we cant think it proper to trouble this Court with those affairs, a particular detail & Consideration of w^{ch} would be more than could be done in a weeks time, nor are they at all proper to be discuss'd here— and after all should it be done it would amount to no more than this—Two men differ each calls in his friend to advise which they do, but advise differently according to their Different Apprehension & thereupon each man follows & applauds the advice he likes best— In short whenever a sufficient number agree to go off from a church or churches, & Embody by themselves & by their outward actions or the General course of their lives in a Judgment of charity there is Reason to think them sincere in their pretensions, if they are willing to support the preaching of the gospel & other ordinances among themselves & especially when their Separation does not break up the churches they leave, we humbly Conceive, & with great deference & submission would say they have a right to demand of the authority, that protection, Exemption & Countenance whereby they may Enjoy their Opinions & Sacred Rights on as Cheap & Easy terms as their neighbours so far as the Circumstances of their case will admit—

The Sixth & Last Article begins with charging the Petition^r with absurdity &c In desiring some allowance for w^{ch} they have paid towards the settlem^t of the minist^{ry} &c— As to the settlem^t of the Rev^d Mr Odlin the Elder, tis out of the Question, but as to the other we see no such absurdity, for many Reasons, but especially considering this was purposely made as chargeably, even to us, as it could be, by making that a Public charge which might have been otherways defrayed, as to Other parts of this Article tis comprised in the foregoing there being no great difference between saying, men Separate from *unreasonable pre Judice*, & saying it is evil in self, that it is of Evil Example & *draws others to do the like* differs little from saying *it would be of Dangerous consequence to the Churches*, all which is only begging the thing in Question—for we think it for the good of the churches, if by Churches we understand the People of the churches & not the Minister only, & if by good, is meant *their Spiritual Edification* & not the great point of maintaining the minister in Affluence & Ease—But this they say if done will be a leading example, & we say all the better, if it be a thing which ought to be done, which is our apprehension of it, & that not only in this case

but all others so circumstanc'd; as to other fearful consequences mention'd they are merely chimerical: & Deserve no Answer— But here it is worth considering whether force, Compulsion or Restraint is a likely way to promote the Interests of pure religion, whether to compel to Conformity is a likely means Ever did or ever will Make a sincere Conformist, & what Interest is such a Conduct likely to promote, unless that of the purse of the parishioners & the more comfortable Subsistence of the Parson for the Larger the Parish, the higher the Salary is no false Logick—But those who are agst their neighbours Spiritual Benefit from Lucrative or frugal principles do not *do as they would be done by*, they do not Exercise that charity which *seeketh not her own*, and he is Effectually ag^t such benefit who prevents or Endeavours to prevent his neighbours from using those means he judges his duty to use. St Pauls Exhortation in this case is for every man to please his neighbours for his good to Edification—As to other matters taken notice of in this Article of the answer we cant think them of so much consequence in This debate as to need a particular Reply—The Building a meeting house or not is of no farther moment in this affair than as it argues those who have done it to be in Earnest & That they think it to be a matter of Some Consequence or they would not have been at that Charge— Upon the whole it is Humbly Submitted whether the Interest of Religion will not be more promoted— whether any such pernicious consequences are like to follow as are Suggested & whether the Interests of a Considerable number of good & faithful Subjects to the Government will not be advanced by granting this Petition? and Lastly whether the Consequences are not likely to be more pernicious which must follow from a Denial—

By- SAM^l GILMAN } In behalf
 PETER GILMAN } of the
 } Petitioners

October y^e 8th 1744.

We whose names are under written having by chance heard that his Excelency & the Hon^{ble} Council heath sent a Survaier (1) to the Parish of Brintwood in order to Devide the same, and we being taking into the Lower Part and have bin at Grate Charge in Getting the Parish, We Pray that we may not be Conbin'd therein for we are sencible that their is not a sufficient number in it be at the Nessuary Charges of a town Parish on Preseint, but that we may have a years Liberty for consideration on what His Excelency shall se fit to Give us—

(1) In the original MS. volume, pp. 27-31, are surveys or plans of the proposed distinct Parishes. Ed.

Jonathan Cram
 Jeremiah Row
 Jonathan Eayer ?
 Jonathan Robenson
 Moses Jewett
 Jonathan Thing

John Mudgett
 Thomas Mudget
 Nichloss Smith
 William Been
 Jonathan Wodley
 John James

*Petition of sundry inhabitants of Exeter to be incorporated
 into a new Parish.*

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain Generall.
 Governor and Commander in Chief In and over his Majes-
 ties Province of New Hampshire and To the Hon^{ble} His
 Majesties Council and House of Representatives Convened
 in Generall Assembly

The Petition of a Number of the Freeholders and Other
 Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter in Said Province—
 Humbly sheweth

That there has been a Minister settled in said Town of Exeter
 Contrary to the Minds of many of your Petitioners who
 Timely Enter'd their Dissents against it—

That your petitioners have hitherto (Contrary to their
 Minds) been compell'd to pay Taxes for the support of the
 said Minister (who carrys on the Publick Worship in the Old
 Meeting house in said Town) Which your Petitioners Humbly
 Conceive is unreasonable and Unjust—

That your Petitioners have Erected a Meeting house & Set-
 tled a Minister at their own Cost, and with the Help of Some
 Valuable Donations appropriated to the use of the Church
 Have supported the Gospel and Carry'd on the Publick Wor-
 ship of God in the Said New Meeting house For about Twelve
 years last past with Peace and Concord amongst themselves—

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray Your Excellency
 & your Honours to Take the case of your Petitioners under
 your wise Consideration and Grant us Relief, By Freeing
 your Petitioners with their Estates, & such other Persons (and
 their Estates) as shall joyn with us (within a time to be Lim-
 ited by your Excellency & your Hon^{rs}) From paying any Tax
 for the support of the ministry in the said Old meeting house
 for the Future; And by Incorporating us and Such Persons,
 and Investing us with Such Powers & Securing to us such
 Priviledges or otherwise Granting us such Aid or Relief as
 your Excellency & Honors In your Great Wisdom shall Think
 best—

And your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever Pray &c—
 April 8th 1755—

Peter Gilman
 Sam^r Gilman
 Thomas Deane
 Theophilus Smith
 Daniel Thing
 John Lord
 Robert Light
 Josiah Gilman
 Sam^r Gilman, Jr
 John Phillips
 Daniel Gilman
 Nich^s Gilman
 Thomas Lord
 Benj^r Thing
 Abner Thurston
 John Dean
 Nath Folsom
 Summersbee Gilman
 Josiah Ladd
 Richard Smith
 Richard Smith, Jr
 Sam^r Smith
 Josiah Barker
 Abner Dollof
 Sam^r Dollof
 Joseph Dollof
 John Roberson Jr
 Peter Roberson
 John Haines
 John Gilman, Jr
 Widow Mary Gilman

John Lougee, Jr
 Edward Colecord
 Nicholas Smith
 Jonathan Judkins
 Joseph Mudget
 Jeremiah Folsom
 Thomas Nealey
 Joseph Acres
 Jonathan Ambrose
 Robert Lord
 Eliphalet Lord
 Stephen Thing
 Joseph Stacey
 Jon^s Young
 Benjeman Rogers
 Stephen Palmer
 John Leavitt
 Joseph Smith
 Wodley Cram
 Edmand Lougee
 Nathaniel Ladd
 Joseph Swasey
 John Boyoden
 Dudley James
 Trueworthy Gilman
 Thomas Piper
 Elias Ladd
 Daniel Gilman
 Nehemiah Gilman
 James Thurston Jr
 William Harris

Province of N. Hampshire—

In Council April 9th 1755

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly
 Theodore Atkinson—Secry.

Province of)
 New Hamp^{sh}) In the House of Representatives April 10th 1755.

Upon Reading the within Petition, voted that the Petitioners be heard on the said Petition in the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly next after the twenty eighth day of April Ins^t and y^t the Petitioners at their own cost serve the Selectmen of Exeter with a copy of this Petition and of the orders thereon to shew cause if any they have why the Prayer of the Petition should not be granted

Matthew Livermore, Clerk.

In Council, Eod^o Die—

Read & Concurred—

Theod^r Atkinson—Secry.

Province of)
 New Hamp^{sh}) In the House of Representatives, Sept 6th 1755

Upon hearing the Petitioners of the within Petition and the Respondents Voted that the Petitioners be set off as a Distinct and Separate Parish from the old parish in Exeter with the Estates they do or shall own in s^t Town for the time being and for the future that when any person or persons shall come into s^t Town to settle or any Person or Persons in s^t Town shall arrive to the age of twenty one years such persons shall have the liberty of three months to determine to which Parish such Person will belong to gather with the Estates they then do

or afterwards shall own as afores^d such Determination to be by giving notice thereof in writing unto the clerk of the new parish within the s^d three months and in default thereof to belong unto the old parish— That the petitioners be exempted from paying any Taxes unto the old parish for this present year or to the support or maintenance of the minister in the old parish or any thing relating to the ministerial Tax that s^d New parish have power to choose all officers necessary for managing parish affairs or to raising money for y^e support and maintenance of the ministry, and that the petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly—

Matthew Livermore
Clerk.

In Council, September 9th 1755

The within Votes of the House read & concurr'd

Theod^r Atkinson Secry

Answer of the Town Committee of Exeter to the foregoing.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governour and Commander in Cheif in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and to the Honourable his Majesties Council and House of Representatives convened in General Assembly.

We being chosen by the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter to represent said Town, and on the behalf of our Constituents to make answer to a petition preferred to this Honorable Court by a number of Freeholders and Inhabitants of said Town praying that they and their Estates may for the future be exempted from paying to the support of the ministry in the old meeting House seeing they represent in their petition, that a minister was settled contrary to the minds of many of the petitioners— In Answer to which, We humbly beg leave to reply as follows—

1st Many of the petitioners especially those that entered their Dissents against the settlement of our Minister the Rev^d Mr Woodbridge Odlin were those that first invited him to preach in this place and were the Cheif Instruments of his being called from a remote place to labour among the people here, Who had he not esteemed their invitation to Him a call from God might now have been serving the Interest of the Redeemers Kingdom in a distant part, But the said Gentleman being Induced by the Importunities of the said petitioners and others in the Town accepted of the Invitation to employ his Labour among them for a considerable Time, of the expiration of which the Church & Congregation being sensible of the Infirmities of their aged pastor, tho't an assistant with him in the ministry and pastoral care of their souls would be for his & their comfort & having had a long

Trial of our present minister by a considerable majority were well satisfied with Him and made choice of him in a way agreeable to the Laws of the province. The Town proceeded at their annual meeting march 28, 1743 To Chuse a Committee to agree with and settle the said Mr Odlin by a considerable Majority. And this Committee was further confirmed in their office by said Town. at a meeting of the Freeholders & Inhabitants June 13: 1743. Those petitioners that entered their Dissents being present and voting with the Town at said meetings, as to the Validity and Regularity of the Settlement it was agreeable to the Majority of Town & Church approved of and ratified by a venerable Council called by this Church—

2. Those who dissented against the settlement of the said minister among the petitioners are many of them such as rent themselves of from the Church Counter to their Covenant Engagements or Church Relation, & Contrary to the Platform of Church Discipline, and their setting up is disallowed off as being contrary to the Known order of our churches, and a Council of ten churches have in their Judgment upon the case declared their disallowance of those Brethrens withdraw as being very unjustifiable and reproachful to Religion.

3. Those petitioners do not profess themselves to be of any different persuasion from the Church they belonged to, but acknowledge they are settled upon Congregational principles and that they could hold occasional Communion with our minister & Church, and if so why not stated? What need of supporting a Seperate Interest to the prejudice of Religion and the peace Interest of the Town.

4. We would inform the Court that there is but about twenty five of the petitioners that entered their Dissents against the settlement of our Minister the rest of them consisting of such persons as have moved into Town or come of age many of which posses no Estates in the Town and some that were forward for the settlement at that Time have for what Reasons we Know not been prevailed with to Join with Them—

5. The Town has already been divided into so many parishes that we conceive it is unreasonable & what would render it very inconvenient & detrimental to the Town, for a number of persons that dwell in the midst of us (which have no prospect of being better accomodated than they might be at the old Meeting house) to be exempted from supporting the charge of the public ministry, where they with their Families might conveniently attend, and we apprehend that we are not at present more than sufficient to support the charges of one parish with other public charges—

6. We apprehend it is unreasonable that the petitioners their

Families and Estates should be exempted from paying to our Minister, in that several of their Families attend public Worship at the Old Meeting House and there is no prospect of their being inclined to alter their Sentiments—

7. We conceive that the countenancing a Number of persons in setting up for themselves without sufficient Reasons that are not of different persuasions from those they went of from will be a tendency to the subversion of all Order in Towns & Churches—

Wherefore from the consideration of the ill Consequences of Countenancing them in their irregular proceedings the great Disorder & Confusion that may thereby be introduced into Towns & Churches, we conceive will have a Tendency to the destroying of all order and running all into the utmost difficulty, if their petition shou'd be granted. Things being in such situation we cannot but apprehend that fixing them on a civil Establishment will be encouraging unwarrantable separations and destructive to the peace and Order of the Churches in the province—

For these & other weighty reasons that might be offered (which will occur to your minds) We humbly Pray. That your Excellency & Honours in your great wisdom would dismiss so unreasonable a petition which we conceive tends to the Subversion of Religion.

ZEB^a GIDDINGE
JOHN RICE.

Result and advice of an Ecclesiastical Council, in Exeter.

We the Elders & delegates of the third church of Christ in Ipswich, the two Churches in Cambridge & the third in Gloucester Convened in Council July 29th 1755 in Exeter at the Mutual request of the Pastor & the first Church in s^t Town and a Number of the brethren called the New Gathered Church to Judge of all matters of difference subsisting between them in order to lead them into a happy Reconciliation & restoration to Christian Communion and fellowship— After humble Supplication to God for direction in this Important affair and full hearing the parties came to the following Result:

1st Notwithstanding any Greivances the Brethren of the New Gather'd Church (so called) may have met with or apprehended they had met with from their late Rev'd Pastor and the brethren of the Church yet we Judge their manner of withdrawing Communion from the Church was disorderly, And that such a conduct tends to destroy the peace and order of these churches, but we Apprehend some Charitable allowances are to be made in favour of these brethren Considering the Circumstances of those times and their plea of unacquaintedness with the order of these Churches.

2^{dly} We Judge the Reflections of the Separating Brethren upon the late Pastor & the Other brethren of the Church (Calling them oppos-

ers of the work of Gods Sovereign Grace &c) to be unbecoming Expressions, savouring of an uncharitable Spirit or of too great abounding in their own sense and opinion of things, and we should have been glad if they had been more full and Express in Acknowledging the warmth & Severity of their Expressions.

3^{thly} With respect to receiving to Comunion the members of other churches who are under admonition: we declare that such a practice is utterly inconsistent with the order and peace of these churches, and that if this New Gathered Church (so called) retain any such members it is just matter of offence to the churches of Christ, and in order to any reconciliation with these churches it is our Judgment that they deny such members any further fellowship in Special Ordinances till they are restored to the Charity of the Churches to which they respectively belong or regularly dismissed.

4^{thly} Provided the New Gathered Church (so-called) shall manifest their consent to and acceptance of the Judgement of this Councill as above and their readiness to Practice agreeably hereto, wee advise the Pastor and first Church in this Town to forgive their brethren whatsoever has been offensive in their late Transactions and not withstanding the Exceptionable stepps they have taken towards their being formed into a Church State. Yet that they own them as a Church of our Lord Jesus Christ and their Pastor (so called) as a minister of Christ and receive them to Christian communion in all Ordinances and acts there of as they do other Churches.

5^{thly} And upon their Complying as above we recomend them also to the fellowship & communion of all the other churches in the land walking in the faith & order of the Gospel: At the same time Earnestly recommending it to the New Gathered Church (so called) to pay all due respect to the churches of Christ, and to Exercise great caution that they avoid every thing which may greive or offend them: And now dear brethren of the New gathered church (so called) we have proposed such terms for your being accepted into communion with the churches as upon a Mature Impartial weighing matters we think highly reasonable for you to comply with, and such as we Judge necessary, to secure the Interest of Religion, the honour of Christ, and the peace and Safety of these churches. We therefore cannot but hope that God will convince you of your duty here in And incline you to a hearty complyanze herewith— And as to the Rev Pastor and beloved brethren of the first church, we cannot but hope, that considering the times which have pass'd over us, and the present Circumstances of your Separating brethren, you will upon their Submitting to and accepting of our Judgment & advice forgive them in whatever has been by them Greivous or offensive to you & receive them, (together with the person whom they acknowledge for their Pastor) in their respective capacities and treat them accordingly by all proper acts of Christian Fellowship & Comunion, And now Rev^d Hon^d & Beloved it will be to us matter of Joy and thankfulness to see the people of God in this place thus united in holy fellowship: And we Earnestly Exhort & beseech you in the bowels of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive one another as you hope that God for Christs sake will forgive you, and that you would Embrace one another as in times past in the Arms of Love & Charity, And that there be a friendly interchange of all acts of Christian, brotherly Comunion as occasion may Call for, And that there be a carefull avoiding Everything in Speech or behaviour, that may grieve or offend Each other, and if there should be some different sentiment as to some particular points, that there be a careful preserving the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Finally brethren farewell, be perfect be of Good

Comfort, be of one mind, live in peace and the God of Love and peace shall be with you, Amen,

Exeter Augth 1st 1755. Voted unanimously

SAM^l WIGLESWORTH,
Moderator-

A true copy. Attest Sam Cook. Scribe

Acceptance of the foregoing Result and Advice.

At a meeting of the New Gath^d Church of Christ in Exeter—August 4th 1755,

Voted- That we consent to and accept of the Judgment and Advice of the Council mutually chosen by us and the first church of Christ in said Town—as is contained in their result dated August 1st 1755—and sign'd by the Rev^d Samuel Wigglesworth as moderator—and we hereby manifest our Readiness to practice agreeably thereto.

Voted likewise—That a copy of the above be sent to the Rev^d Woodbridge Odlin, to be communicated to the first Church of Christ in Exeter.

Samuel Gilman	} Ruling Eld ^{rs} in behalf of the Church.
Daniel Thing	
John Phillips	

Province of } To the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council For the Prov-
New Hampsh^r } ince of New Hampshire--

These certify that the sum which was voted by the Town of Exeter to the Rev^d Mr. Woodbridge Odlin this Present year was for his Salary only, & not for any Arrearages due to him from the Town. But as there was something due to him from the Town at that time, The same is Included in the Town Rate for the Current Year and not in the Ministers Rate.

All which is Humbly Certified by your Hon^{rs} most Hum^{le} Servants—

Josiah Gilman	} Selectmen of Exeter.
Rob ^t Light	
Jonathan Gilman Jr	
Charles Rundlet	

Exeter Sept 8th 1755.

Concurred, but care must be taken in the act to have Provision that the Town may choose officers to make the ministerial rate—and also to repair the churches reciprocally That all arrearages if any be paid by both as if not separated. The act will not Pass without these articles are Inserted.

Petition of John Odlin and others for power to call Parish meetings, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened Dec. 6th 1763.

Humbly shews John Odlin, Josiah Sanborn and Sam^l Brooks, all of Exeter in said Province :

That by an Act Pass'd in the twenty ninth year of his Late

Majestys Reigen a new Parish was incorporated in that part of Exeter Remaining, (commonly called the Town) after the Parishes of Brentwood & Epping were set off which was called the new Parish & Invested with the Powers usual in such Cases. and the remaining part of said Town was made a Parish & authorized to manage their affairs Relating to the support of the Gospel ministry, Separately and for that purpose was authorized to chuse assessors of the Parish Taxes Collectors &c which were to be chosen at the annual Town meeting for as to Town affairs there was no alteration by said act and this was the only matter that could be transacted at the Town meeting respecting said Parish ——— as may at large appear by reference to said act.

That your Petitioners suppose it was the design of said Act that such assessors should be authorized to call such meetings of said Parish as there should be occasion for without any regard or matter to be done by the select men of the Town, but that power is not given (unless by a very remote Implication) so that as to any special Business to be done by said Parish as repairs additions &c to their meeting house they have no method of consulting and Determining but what is drawn with Question & Dispute upon the Doubt about calling the meeting nor can they obtain a meeting for the Select men refuse to call it and the assessors doubt their authority——

That there is a necessity of repair their meeting house purchasing a Bell & transacting other Parochial affairs which are all suspended by the ambiguous Language of said act Wherefore your Petitioners pray the advisement of the General Assembly thereon and that by a Resolve they would Declare that the said assessors have Power to call such meetings of said Parish, if it appears to be within the Intention of said Act, or to put said Parish or remaining part of said Town under a new Regulation, & that no officer of the Town as such may have any thing to do with said Parish and that your Petitioners may have Leave to Bring in a Bill accordingly and they shall ever Pray &c.

JOHN ODLIN.
SAM^l BROOKS.

FRANCESTOWN.

[This town was settled about 1760 by John Carson, a Scotchman, and was incorporated 8th of June, 1772. Ed.]

Petition for a land tax to build a Meeting house, &c.

Province of	}	To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq.
New Hampshire		Captain General and Governor in Chief
County of		in and over his Majestys Province of
Hilsborough		New Hampshire and to the Hon ^{ble} his
		Majesties Council & House of Repre-
sentatives and general Court Assembled—		

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Sheweth:

That Whereas Frances Town in the Province and County aforesaid hath no Land left or laid out by the Original Proprietors for the Encouragment of the first Gospel Minister to settle amongst us we your Humble Petitioners humbly desire your Excellency and Honnours to make an Act To Collect or raise a Tax of a Penny half penny per acre for two years or more or less as your Excellency and Honnours shall see fit upon all the land within the Town aforesaid for the settlement of our first Minister and Building a Meting House your Excellency and Honnors Complience herewith will verry much serve our Intrest and Encourage the Settlement of the Wilderness: And your Humble Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray—

Francetown Aprile 22^d AD: 1773.

Thomas Quigly
John Quigly
Thomas Quigly, Jr
James Hopkins
Robert Fulton, Jr
John Dickey
William Lee
William Starrett
Sam^l Nutt
Adam Dickey
William Holmes
Joseph Dickey
Benjamin Seleper
Samuel Marten
William Butterfield
William Butterfield.
Nathan Fisher

Oliver Holmes
Asa Lewes
Nathan Clough
Samuell Nicolas
William M Master
Hugh McGumery
Robert Morel
John Carson
John Brown
David Lewis
Henry M farson
Charles Mellon
Samuel Gregg
John Hopkins
Robert Hopkins
David Gregg

Province of New Hampshire—

In Council May 13th 1773—

Read & Order'd to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

Geo: King Dep^y Sec^y

In the house of Represent^s May 14, 1773.

On Reading the foregoing Petition Order'd that the Petitioners at their Own Cost cause the Substance of said Petition to be printed in

the New Hampshire Gazette three weeks successively & that the Petitioners may be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the 15th day of June next—

William Parker, Clerk.

In Council Eodem die,
Read and Concur'd.

Geo: King, D. Secy.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Represent^s Jan. 14th 1774.

Voted that the Prayer of this Petition be granted that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a bill for laying a tax on the Lands mention'd in said Petition for the term of two years of a One penny half penny an Acre Each year

W^m Parker Cler.

In Council Eodem die.

Read and Concurr'd with this amendment, that the Lands in said Frances Town belonging to the Purchasers of Masons Patent be exempted from the above mention'd tax.

Geo King, D. Secry.

Province of New Hampshire } In the House of Represent^s Jan 16th 1774.

The Above vote, of Council read & non concurred & Voted that the House adhere to their former Vote.

W^m Parker, Clerk

In Council Jan^y 19th 1774.

Read and nonconcurred.

Geo. King, D. Secry.

In the House of Representatives Jan^y 19th 1774.

Voted that the Prayer of this Petition be granted, that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a bill, for laying a Tax on the lands mention'd in said Petition for the Term of Two years of one penny half penny pr acre Each year. Provided it shall not Interfere with or make void any former agreement made between the Grantors, or any of them, & the Grantees of Said Francestown

William Parker, Clerk, Assembly

In Council Eodem die.

Read and Concur'd.

Geo. King, D. Secy.

FRANCONIA.

[Franconia, which was originally called Morristown, was granted February 14, 1764, to Isaac Searle and others. The first permanent settlement was made in 1774. Ed.]

Petition of John Wendell, agent, for the town of Franconia.

Province of New Hamps^r } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
Captain General Governour & Commander
in Chief in & Over His Majestys Province
of New Hampshire and Vice admiral of the Same in Council—

The Petition of John Wendell of Portsmouth in the County

of Rockingham in the Province aforesaid Esq^r in behalf of himself and as Agent to the Hon^{ble} John Temple Esq. Sir Francis Barnard Bart., Thomas Hubbard Esq. and Benjamin Akerman unto your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} Council Humbly Shews—

That your Petitioner & the aforementioned Gentlemen claim Lands by Purchase & as Grantees in the Township of Franconia, and that he applied to his Excellency before the Expiration of the Charter for a renewal thereof in behalf of the former Grantees who was pleased to grant him a Warrant to the Surveyor General to procure a survey thereof: who thereupon issued out Orders to Benj. Whiting Esq^r as his D^y Surveyor, to return a survey thereof, and the Said Whiting and others have made Several attempts for that Purpose at a considerable Expence to your Petitioner but has not been able to effect it by reason of impassable Mountains & has informed your Petitioner that one half of said Township is so mountainous & Rocky as not to be inhabited. And your Petitioner in behalf of himself & those he represents humbly begs leave to represent unto your Excellency & Honours. that they are the Only Persons who have been at any Expence upon this Service or have any way regarded the Township as worth their Notice, as also to pray your excellency & Honours to grant so much of said Township, as may be found Inhabitable on a survey thereof, to your Petitioner and his Associates, & so much of the Township of Lincoln adjoining thereto as will make a full Township on which your Petitioner & his associates may make a settlement of the same: or otherwise to relieve them on the Prayer of this Petition as your Excellency & Honours in your Wisdom think proper, & your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray—

JOHN WENDELL.

Portsm Jan^y 22, 1772.

Petition of Alexander Phelps and others, relating to forfeiture and re-grant of Franconia and Lincoln.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General. Gov^r and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire. In Council

The Petition of Alexander Phelps and his Associates humbly sheweth that there is a Tract of Land in Said Province. Containing about forty six Thousand Acres without any allowance for highways &c, formerly Granted by the Names of Franconia and Lincoln, which Land has been hitherto wholly neglected by the former Grantees and thereby become for-

feited, which lands altho much broken may answer for a Settlement, for a Small number of Inhabitants—Whereupon your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency to Grant and Confirm to them their Heirs and Assigns the whole of said Lands. Except Six Thousand acres, butting westerly two miles wide, on y^e Town of Landaff and Southerly five miles on y^e Southerly Line of said Tract— Subject to usial & Customary Restrictions & Limitations and they as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

ALEX^r PHELPS.

Portsmouth, May 31, 1772.

GILMANTON.

[This town was granted May 20, 1727, to twenty-four persons by the name of Gilman, and 152 others. Ed.]

Province of) To His Excellency Benning Wentworth
New Hampshire) Esqr. Captain General Governor & Com-
mander In Chief In & Over his Majes-
ty's Province of New Hampshire— To the Hon^{ble} His
Majesty's Council & House of Representatives Convened in
General Assembly.

The Petition of Theophilus Smith Esq^r Captⁿ John Odlin,
& Doct^r Josiah Gilman a Committee for and in behalf of the
Proprietors of the Township of Gilmantown in said Province,
Humbly Sheweth

That the Settlement of the Said Township has been long Re-
tarded by Reason that no Provision hath yet been made for a
Legal Taxation to be made & levied on the said Proprietors
to Defray the Charge of said Propriety which Have already
arisen or may hereafter Arise in Settling Said Township—

That if such Provision be made by An Act of this Hon^{ble}
Court, the said Petitioners believe that a Settlement of the Said
Township may be soon Effected—

That Such Settlement of said Township will be not only a
great Benefit to the Said Proprietors, But to the Province In
General:—

Wherefore the Petitioners Humbly Pray That your Excel-
lency & Hon^{rs} will take the Matters of this Petition Under
your wise Consideration and Pass such Act or Acts to Enable
the said Proprietors to Raise such Sum or sums of money by
Taxing the said Proprietors (as they shall find necessary from

time to time to Defrey the charges aforesaid) as your Excellency & Hon^{rs} In your Great Wisdom shall see fitt.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c
May 15th 1760.

THEO. SMITH
JOHN ODLIN
JOSIAH GILMAN.

In Council May 16, 1760.

Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House
Theod^r Atkinson Secry.

Province of } In the house of Representatives Feby 12th 1761
New Hamps }

This petition being Read—Voted That the prayer thereof be Granted
& have Liberty to Bring In a Bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Feb. 13th 1761

Read & Concurrd.

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

GILSUM.

[This town was incorporated July 6, 1763. Ed.]

Vote of Westmoreland to set off a part of the Inhabitants to Gilsum.

1766. Att a Meeting of the free holders and the Other Inhabitants of the Town of Westmorland holden on March the Twelfth Day 1766, Voted to set of the people to Gilsum that Belong to the North East corner of this Town from Walpole Corner to Keen Line—

A Trew Coppy as Recorded on the Town Book.

Isaac Butterfield } Town Clerk

Vote of Gilsum to set off the west end of the town.

Province of New Hampshire.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Gilsum meet at the House of Mr Jonathan Smiths in s^d Town on Tuesday the 26th of August 1766 being meet and duly formed Mr Joseph Spensor Being chose Moderator to Govern S^d Meeting Sd Inhabitants Voted to set off the West End of S^d Towne as far East as the Mountain Range—

A True Coppy of the Vote as it was then past

Test pr. me, Tobadiah Willcox,
Town clerk.

Gilsum Sep^{im} y^e 1st 1766.

Assent of inhabitants of Gilsum to be set off.

Province of }
New Hampshear }

Gilsum, July the 1st AD: 1768,

This may Certifie the Honerabell General Cort of this Provence, that

we the Subscribers Inhabitance of the East parte of the Town of said Gilsum Do Agree and give our free Concente that the West pearte of this the Said Town of Gilsum shold be sett off to be one Intier Town Pearish or presink with a part of Westmoland and to Extend as fear East as is here Disscribed (viz) To Begin at the South Line of said Gilsum 80 Rods East of the South East Corner of Westmoland Ledge (So cald) and to Run North by the neadel 260 Rods then Making a seatt off 80 Rods East, and then Running North by the Neadel a cross the said Town—

In Conformation hereof we Subscribe

Josiah Kilburn,
Ebenezer Kilborn
Jonathan Adams
Medad Thornton

Henry White
Pelatiah Pease
John Chapman
Obediah Willcox.

Petition for a new town.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governour &c in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire—The Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said Province—

The Petition of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the Westerly Part of the Township of Gilsum and the Northwesternly Part of the Township of Westmoreland in said Province Humbly Sheweth:

That said Westerly part of Gilsum being seperated from the Easterly Part of the Same Township by a long and impassable Mountain almost thro the Township of said Gilsum Dividing the Same so as leave about one third part of the Lands of the Township of said Gilsum on the Westerly side of said Mountain, and no convenient Communication can be had with the Easterly Part of Said Township, so very necessary for the well Regulating and management of Town affairs; and the Westerly part of said Gilsum being too Small in Contents of Land for a Seperate & Distinct Town, Parish or Precinct, And whereas the Northwesternly part of said Westmoreland being that part of said Town Called Westmoreland Leg Lying at a Great Distance from and very difficult Passage to the main Body of y^r Town and Inhabitants of said Westmorland and also Paying large Taxes for the Support of the Ministry & other Town Charges, without being able to Receive any Benefit or advantage therefrom And being adjoining to and conveniently Situate to be joined and incorporated with said Westerly part of Gilsum therewith to make one Seperate and Distinct Town &c.

Now your Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency and Honour that Said Westerly part of Gilsum and Northeasterly part of Westmoreland: (viz) begining at the Southeast corner of Walpole thence running Southerly on a Straight Line to the North West corner of Keene thence running Easterly on

the Line of said Keene to the Southeast corner of Westmoreland Leg so called and continuing the same Line Eighty Rods East of Sd (last mention'd) corner thence runing North two Hundred and Sixty Rods, thence East Eighty Rods, thence on a North Line to the North Line of said Township of Gilsum thence West on the Line of Said Gilsum to the Northwest Corner of the Same thence South on the Line between said Gilsum & Walpole to the first mentioned Bounds that part of said Westmorland & Gilsum included in the aforementioned Lines, may be taken off from y^e aforesaid Towns of Westmoreland & Gilsum, and be Erected made and Incorporated into one Seperate & Distinct Town, Corporation & Body Politick with all the Powers, Priviledges and immunities that any town hath or by Law ought to have in said Province or otherways as to your Excellency & Honours seam fit and as in Duty bound shall Ever pray—(1)

Dated Gilsum July the 4th AD. 1768.

Obadiah Willcox

Samuel Hall

Job Gleason,

Joseph Spencer

Moses Field

Thomas Smith

Ichabod Smith

Eliphalet Dart

John Marvin.

Abel Allen

Woolston Brockway

Benjamin Wheeny ?

Joshua Fuller

Joseph Mack

Jonathan Pareish

Peter Hayward

William Barns

Charles Rice

Nathaniel Dart

Jonathan Smith

Jonathan Smith, Jr

(1) A plan of the proposed new town is found in the original MS., volume III., p. 77. Ed.

In Council October 22^d 1768.

Read & ordered to be sent down to Hon^{ble} Assembly

Geo: King, Dep^y Secry.

Province of)
New Hamps^h) In the House of Representatives Oct^r 25th 1768.

The foregoing Petition being Consider'd and the Votes of Each Town Shewing their willingness, also a Plan Produced.

Voted That the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a bill for Incorporating said Town Pray'd for the Bounds to be Agreeable to the said plan

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eodem Die—

Read & Concurr'd—

Geo. King, Dep^y Secry.

GOFFSTOWN.

[This town was originally granted by the Province of Massachusetts, and was incorporated June 16, 1761. Ed.]

*Petition of Archibald Stark for soldiers to guard the
garrison at Amoskeag.*

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General,
Governour & Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's
Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's
Council and House of Representatives for said Province in
General Assembly Convened March the 9th 1747.

The Humble Petition of Archibald Stark of a place called
Amaskege in said Province Shews—

That your Petitioner has lived at said Place for the term of
ten years last past and has at his own cost Built a Garrison
there of Considerable Strength & Conveniency by which the
Place may be Defended against the Common Enemy with the
assistance of a Competent number of Soldiers:

That there are upwards of twenty families that are settled
there which have been Encouraged by your Petitioners Reso-
lution hitherto to Stand their Ground & maintain their Settle-
ments who must inevitably leave them if the said Garrison
should be broken up— That the Situation is such as make
it a place of Importance to be Supported being a Common
Stage between Londonderry Chester and Pennycoke Suncoke
& other Settlements & in the Course of Business there very
Convenient for Travellers to Stop at. & proves a necessary
means of Communication between the settlements as well as a
Barrier & cover to many Settlements & families between that
and Londonderry—That as your Petitioner has been at great
charges to bring his Plantation there, to the Condition it is
now in & laid out all his substance for that purpose (whereby
he Conceives he may justly be Esteemed a Public Benefactor)
it is not only of the utmost Importance to him that the Place
be Defended, but also gives him some claim to ask it, and as
his Fortune Depends upon it, and it may be *his* Life as well
as others. He most Humbly Prays that a Competent Number
of Soldiers may be allowed him to be Posted at said Garrison
& to Guard & Defend him and others in Performing the nec-
essary Labours of the Ensuing season. that their Husbandry
may not be Diminished and your Petitioner as in Duty
bound Shall Ever pray &c.

ARCHIBALD STARK.

In Council March 9th 1747.

Read & Order'd to be sent to the Hon^{ble} House.

Theodore Atkinson, Secy.

Votes at a town meeting in Goffstown.

County of Hillsborough } A meeting legally warned and
 in Province of New Hampshire } held at the meeting house in Goffstown on munday the 15 Day of

July 1771.

Votted, Capt James Karr Moderator.

Votted, That the meeting be carried on by Poleing.

Votted, That there be a comitee chose in order to treete with Mr Joseph Currier in order for settlement—

Votted, That there be seven men chose for sd comitee.

Votted,	Samuel Blodget Esq	} be said Committee.
	Capt James Karr	
	Jotham Tuttle	
	Job Dow	
	Tho ^s Sherla	
	Alex ^t Gilcrest	

Votted, Fifteen pounds Lawfull money to De-charge the Debt of said Town.

Votted. To throw up the Road from Jonathan Martins, to Capt Ladds and except of the Road that was laid out by the selectmen last year, and that Capt Ladd is Satisfyed for the same.

Votted, That the Town will prosecute those that have trespassed on the ministers and school lots.

Votted. That the meeting Stand adjourn'd until Monday the 29 Day of July at four oclock in the after noon.

The Inhabitants being met according to said adjournment July 29, 1771,

Votted. To Receive the Report of the Comitee, viz

Sam^l Blodget Esqr
 Capt James Karr
 Jotham Tuttle
 Job Dow
 Tho^s Shirla
 Alex^r Gilcrest

Votted, That the meeting be Dismissed

A True Coppy of Record attest pr

Alex. Walker, Town Clerk.

Petition for a Presbyterian Society.

To His Excellency, John Wentworth Esq. Capⁿ Gen^l Governour and Commander in Chief, in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire. In N. England—And to the Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives In General Assembly Conven'd.

The humble Petition of his Majesty's Subjects, Inhab^{ts} of Goffs Town and Province affors^t

Sheweth—

That your Petitioners most or all of them have been educated in the Presbyterian Persuasion and look on themselves as bound in conscience still to adhere to the same persuasion ;

That your Petitioners generally inhabit one part of said

Goff's Town which renders their associating together for public worship more convenient—

That your Petitioners have had some supply of preaching from the Presbytery to which we are connected and expect more from time to time, and soon to be in a Capacity (through Providential Smiles) to build a meeting House, and settle a Minister of their own persuasion.

May it therefore please your Excellency & Honours impartially to consider the Premises, and by your authority to enact that your Petitioners may be a distinct Society Cloath'd with Parish powers that so they may be in a Legal Capacity of Levying Parish Charges, and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c—

Dated at Goffstown,

November 2^d 1771.

William Madole
Thomas Shirla
John Dinsmoor
Alex^r Gilcrest
John Dunlap
Robert Sherly (?)
John Gillmor
George Addison
Sam^l M Farland
John Orr
James Marr
Ma^t Kennedy
Daniel M farland
James M ferson, Jr
James M ferson
Tho^s Miller
Danell Marr
James Barr

Tho^s Kennedy
Robert Kennedy
Samuel Kennedy
Wilam M ferson
John M ferson
James Moor
William Dunlap
John Butterfield
George Cunningham
James Barr, Jr.
Antipas Dodge
Joseph Kennedy
David M Clure
Jnⁿ Little
Daniel Allen
Silas Walker
David Currier
Alexander M Cay

Petition of the Inhabitants of Goffstown, 1772, relating to town disputes.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Capt. Gen^l Gov. & Commander in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, & Vice admiral of the same. The hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province to be conven'd at Portsm^o in said Province on Tuesday the 19th day of May Current.

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of Goffestown in the County of Hillsboro' in said province, humbly Complains—

That the Inhabitants of said Goffes Town at their last annual march meeting having some disputing on the business of the Day, after which the Select men published who were Legal

Voters, according to the Law of said province, after which the Votes were bro't in for a Moderator, The Votes were 25 for the hon^{ble} Sam^l Blodget Esq & 26 for Alex^t Gilchrist, on which said Mr Blodget said one John Pattie was not a legal Voter, (who had voted for said Gilchrists being Moderator) the select men said he was, but Mr Blodget insisted he was not, & that his Vote should be thrown out, w^h was done. Then the Votes stood 25 for one & 25 for the other, after which Mr Blodget pulled a power of Attorney out of his pocket, & read it, given by one Job Rowell (who is since dead) to his son Jonathan Rowell a minor & who had never been rated. Impowering said Jonathan to Vote at said meeting & Mr Blodget insisted That said Jon^s had a Legal Right to vote in Said Meeting by virtue of said power which said Jon^s did & voted for Mr Blodget to be Moderator, w^h turned the vote in Mr Blodgets favour & that said Pattie was not allowed to Vote, & the said Jonathan's voting & Pattie being deprived. caused different men to be chose Town Officers, than would have been, by which Means we humbly conceive we are much injured and deprived of our just & Legal Rights, Wherefore we your Complainants & petitioners humbly prays your Excell^{ty} & Honours to take our Case into your Consideration & grant us such relief as in your great wisdom shall seem meet, & your petition^{rs} as in Duty bound shall ever pray—

Dated at Goffe's Town the 18th day of May. AD. 1772.

David Currier	John Dinsmoor
George Hadley	Sam ^l M farland
Alex ^t Gilchrist	Robert Speer
John Little	Will ^m Dunlap
Tho ^s Miller	Thomas Shiria
Daniel Marr	Antipas Dodge
James Marr	John Clogston
James Moor	Daniel Allen
James Barr	Silas Walker
Ja ^s Barr. Jr	John Butterfield
Alex ^t M Cay	Ja ^s Fearson
Samuel Kennedy	Dan ^l M Farland
Thomas Kennedy	William Fearson
Phineas Hadley	James Ferson
George Cunningham	John Orr
Robert Kennedy	David M ^c Clue
George Addison	John Dunlap
Joseph Kennedy	Asa Pattie
Matt ^s Kennedy	William Madole

In Council May 21st 1772.

Read & order'd to be sent down to the hon^{ble} Assembly—
Geo King, D^y Secry.

May 22^d 1772. In the house of Representatives— Upon Reading this Petition

Voted— that the pet^s be heard on the said petition on the first Tues-

day in June next & that they serve the said Mr Blodget & the former select men with the copy of said petition & order of Court thereon.

W^m Parker, Cler.

In Council Eodem die.

Read & Concurrd.

Theodore Atkinson, Secy—

Copy Ex^a

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

May 30th 1772. We the Subscribers bein present an saw Mr Jn^s Pattey Rase his name which was granted at his Request.

Thomas Saltmarsh

Jonathan Martain

A town meeting called.

Province of } The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town
New Hampr } of Goff's Town Qualified as the Law Directs, are hereby
County of } notified to meet at the meeting house in s^d Town on
Hillsborough } Wednesday the fourteenth Day of this Instant January,
at one oclock afternoon, then and there to act on the
following articles

1st To Choose a moderator

2^{dly} To see if the Town will chuse one or more meet Persons to be Conjoynt with Capt James Karr one of the Selectmen of this Town, to make answer agreeable to a citation from his Excellency the Governor and Council and house of Representatives to a petition of a number of the Inhabitants of this Town, who are praying His Excellency the Governour and Council and house of Representatives to sett them off in a Distinct Parish, by themselves, and that the person or persons chosen as above be Impowered to transact any Other matter wherein the Town is concerned at the General Court

3^{dly} To see if the Town will raise any Monies to defray the charges arising in attending the General Court and how much

4^{thly} To Chuse a Committee to Sash and glass the Meeting house

5^{thly} To Chuse a committee to settle the accounts with Sam^l Blodget Esq and see whether the Town will allow him Intrest for the moneys Due to him

6^{thly} To see if the Town Excuse Capt Alexander Todd from paying Rates to the Minister he being a Presbyterian

Dated at Goffstown January 1st 1772

To Sam^l Richards, Constable,

James Karr } Selectmen
Alex^r Todd }

Pursuant to the within warrant I have warned all the persons within named to meet at time and place.

Sam^l Richards, Constable

Goff's town January 15. 1772

A true Coppy of Record,

Attest pr. Alex^r Walker—Town Clerk.

Proceedings at a town meeting.

At a meeting Legally warned and held at the meeting house in Goffes Town on Wednesday the 14 Day of January 1772;

Votted Samuel Blodget Esq Moderator.

Votted That Sam^l Blodget Esq. and Sam^l Richards be a committee conjoynt with Capt James Karr one of the select men to make answer to the citation from his Excellency the Governour and Council and hous of Representatives to a petition of a number of the inhabitants of this Town who are praying his Excellency the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Court and house of Representatives to set them of a parish by themselves and that they are Impowered to transact any other matter Concerning the Town of Goffes Town

Votted Twelve Pounds Law full money be raised to Defray the charges arising in attending the Generall Court

Votted To Chuse a committee to sash and glase the meeting house

Votted That this said committee consist of three men

Votted	Capt Joseph Little	} be said Committee
	Tho ^s Saltmarsh	
	Aaron Wells	

Votted That there be a committee to settle with Sam^l Blodget Esq

Votted. That said committee consist of three men.

Votted	Benjamin Stevens	} be said Committee
	Samuell Richards	
	Capt Joseph Little	

Votted That Sam^l Blodget Esq Shall be allowed Intrest for his money

Votted That the meeting be Dismissed

A true Copy of Record

Attest Pr. Alex^r Walker Town Clerk,

- *Petition for an emission of paper money.*

The Honourable Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire to be Conven'd on the first Wednesday in September 1786.

The Petition of the free holders and other Inhabitants of Goffs-Town

Humbly Sheweth—

That we your Hon^{rs} Petitioners, perceiving the declining condition of our Country and of this our State of New Hampshire in particular the Stagnation of Trade and Commerce amongst us as well as the slow progress of Agriculture and Mechanichism, together with the additional Calamity of an enormous debt incurred by the late unhappy War;

Prevails with us your Honours Petitioners to present you, with these our Grievances as we apprehend they proceed Intirely from the Scarcity of Cash amongst us through the want of which we cannot discharge either our publick or private debts—Conduct Trade or Commerce, Neither can the needy purchase the necessary articles of Sustainance—As we presume every thinking person who has the care of the Welfare of his

Country at heart, plainly discerns the several causes from whence these our grievances proceeded, as also the many Glaring and impending Calamities that are likely to ensue them (unless timeously remedied) we think it needless therefore to point them out to your Honours:

But to redress our Grievances we would humbly pray your Honours forthwith to emitt a Quantity of paper Currency sufficient to discharge this States Domestic debt for which the subjects are oppress'd by paying the Interest, and to be a Circulating Medium of Trade within this state—Let said currency be put into Circulation by establishing it a Lawful tender in payment for all Contracts of a publick or private nature within this state—likewise by redeeming this States Securities for Domestick Debts, of every Kind and description:

And by requiring the possessors of these Securities immediately after the publication of said Currency to come and receive their principal, and all such possessors who shall not appear within three Months and receive their pay, shall forfeit their Interest, and those who shall not appear in twelve months, and receive their pay to forfeit their principal & Interest, And that it may Circulate the better we recomment it to be made without Interest. And in such Bills as may be Easier changed for the benefit of Trade:

And furthermore we would recomment to your Honours. that every method possible be taken by the Legislative Authority for preventing its depreciation and Counterfeiting—by suitable punishments—let the punishment of Counterfeiting be death without respect of persons and also their accomplices, and Exorbitant extortioners, and those who would refuse to take it in pay for debts, or contracts of any kind, within this State, be punished by forfeiting the debt or article exposed for sale—The method by which this Currency shall be redeem'd, and the time when. we refer to your Honours wisdom or some future Assembly to determine, Knowing that Time will Solve what we cant foresee, and as we dont think that either debtor or Creditor can be in any wise Injured by this our Plan, but on the contrary much benefited, we therefore desire to harmonize with our fellow Subjects of this State in their similar proposals.

Hoping this our Remonstrance will meet your Honours kind reception, we solace ourselves in the prospect of the future happiness which shall accrue from your Honours Compliance—wishing that the blessings of Heavens may always Rest upon your Honours just Resolutions, your Honours Petitioners shall for ever pray.

A Bank of paper currency.

At a Legal meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Gosport held August 21st 1786—It was unanimously Voted to have a Bank of paper Currency made and at the adjournment of said Meeting held Sept 4th Current, Voted that this their Remonstrances for the same be accepted, and To be presented by their Delegate as such.

Signed in behalf of the Town.

Alex^r Walker, Clerk.

GOSPORT—otherwise STAR ISLAND.

[This place was incorporated 24th Dec., 1715, under the administration of Lieut.-Governor George Vaughan. ED.]

Petition to be exempt from paying Province tax.

To his Excellency Sam^l Shute Esq. Captain Generall, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamp. &c.

To the Honourable the Council & Representatives Conven'd in Gen^l Assembly now Sitting in Portsm^o in s^d Province:

The petition of Richard Yeton one of the Selectmen of Starr Island upon the Isles of Shoales in behalfe of the Inhabitants thereof most humbly sheweth—

That the selectmen of the s^d Island have not Expressed any contempt to the Authority by their omitting to make an assessment on the people thereof pursuant to the ——— (?) or warrant & therefore humbly prays that Your Excellency and the Honourable Assembly would pass a favourable construction thereon & also prays that Your Excellency & this Honourable Assembly would be pleased to consider the following pleas in favour of their being Excused from the Province Tax:

The people are very few in number & most of them are men of no Substance, live only by their daily fishing and near one third of them are single men and threaten to remove and leave us, if the tax be laid which will prove our utter ruine if our fishermen leave us.

The charge and expence which they are at in the support of the ministry is as great as the people can bear at present it having cost them but lately the sum of Two Hundred pounds for that end in building a Meeting house—which is not yet all paid.

The Government have here tofore encouraged them that

they should be exempted from paying Province Taxes whilst they Express their forwardness in so good a Service.

Though the Inhabitants have been very much richer and more numerous and their Trade greater than at present yet they were not then rated, nor the Inhabitants on the Island, in the Massachusetts Government. They live on a Rock in the Sea and have not any priviledge of right in common Lands, as other Inhabitants in the respective Towns have.

They have defended themselves in the time of Warr Agst the publick enemy at their own Expence both for forts and souldiers whose wages they have paid, and finally all other Towns in this Province have been larger and more numerous before they were taxed to the province rate.

I do with a Humble Confidence assure your Excellency and the Honourable Assembly that we shall ever express a Loyalty to his Majesty and a ready obedience to the command of the Government, but considering our poverty with the foregoing pleas in our favour, I do humbly pray that you will please to excuse us from the present tax, and when we shall be better capable shall readily bear our proportion of the publick charge —& So yo^r Petitioners shall ever pray—as in duty bound &c & Subscribes

RICH^d YETON.

22^d April 1721.

Petition of Selectmen for remission of taxes.

Province of	}	To his Excellency Benning Wentworth
New Hampshire		Esq ^r Captain General Governour and
		Commander in Chief in and over the said
		Province, The Hon ^{ble} his Majestys
		Council and House of Representatives in
		General Assembly Conven'd Jan'y 4,
		1760

Humbly shew, Henry Carter, Richard Talpey and Charles Miller all of Gosport within said Province in behalf of themselves and the other inhabitants of said Gosport That the said Inhabitants have allways chearfully paid their Province Tax with Great Willingness and pleasure, so long as they were of ability and untill the four last years when their Circumstances in life became so low (being only a few poor fishermen) and the necessaries for living being Excessively dearer at the place of their aboad one half more than at any other part of the Province with the Great Difficulty of Transporting the same there together with their other great charge, Supporting the Gospel Ministry among them the fewness of the Inhabitants & their

poverty and their few within four years last past being Greatly Reduced they having had thirty Two Ratable poles within that time left them to serve the King or Removed to other places, Six of which had families and their is but few very few young men among them and the neighbouring islands in the Mass-Bay altho Very short of our number have on account of their poverty been Exempted from tax for Twenty years last, and altho Warrants from the Treasurer have come to the Selectmen of said Gosport to assess the inhabitants for their part year after year yet the select men did only the first year assess them and on finding that was not paid. the poverty of the Inhabitants and some Great Incouragement from some of the Hon^{ble} General Court That on shewing forth the Difficulties Aforesaid the same might be Remited and since they have not made any assessm^t for Province Tax and that that was made was never collected, and now the same amounts to a Very Considerable sum and if their very poor and few Remaining Inhabitants should be Oblidged to pay the same it would Greatly tend to their Ruin for the few Remaining young men would remove from them rather than Pay any part to such back taxes as were due before some of them were Oblidged by law to pay any. and their would be none but a few old helpless persons left. And We would here beg leave to observe to this Hon^{ble} Court that had we had a Representative in Court at the time the proportion was made Gosport might not have been Tax'd but altho we were always inform'd that We were allow'd the Liberty of Sending one member to Represent us in said Court yet we never ask'd it Knowing it would be a great Cost to the Province, More than any advantage of Tax that could possibly be expected from the Inhabitants, for which Reason we never made any Enquiry into that matter.

Wherefore We humbly pray the Consideration of this Hon^{ble} Court on the premises—and that you will be pleas'd to pass such act or Resolve to take of the said Back taxes and that we may be exempt for the time to come, or grant such other Relief therein as in your Great Wisdoms shall Seem meet unto you—and then We from such Incouragement shall have Great Reason to hope that instead of our few becoming fewer we shall increase in our numbers and be able to pay Province Taxes with Great Willingness when we shall have it in our ability—And by being heard in this our Request We shall as in Duty Bound Ever Pray—

HENRY CARTER	} Selectmen
RICHARD TALPEY	
CHARLES MILLER	

In Council Jan^y 4th 1760—

Read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly
Theodore Atkinson, Secy.

Province of }
New Hamps. } In the House of Representatives June 5th 1761.

This petition being Read—Voted—That the prayer thereof be granted & that the sum of five hundred & Twelve pounds Eight shillings & one penny New Tenor that appearing to be the sum due from Gosport for the province Tax be Remitted, & that the Treasurer be hereby Intitled to Charge the said sum to the Province—

£512 ,, 8 ,, 1^d New Tenor—

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council June the 16th 1761,

Read & Concurr'd

Theo^r Atkinson Secy

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for a Lottery, for protecting the Harbor.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General,
Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys
Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^{ble} his Majestys
House of Representatives for said Province in General As-
sembly conven'd the 25th day of June
Anno Domini 1766.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Gosport in the
Province of New Hampshire and others whose Interest is
Concern'd Shews

That the situation of the Road & harbour at Gosport Afore-
said is well known to be exposed to the Violence of Winds &
seas in many cases & Events which frequently occur by which
they often sustain much Loss & Damage which they would
gladly Prevent it by any means Feasible:

That it has been Judg'd a Pier or Bason might be so con-
trived and Built as to be in a Great Measure a security in this
Case and a means of great saving to your Petitioners & Preser-
vation of their Property

That to make such a work Effectual a Larger Sum woud
be demanded than your Petitioners by any means coud raise
but as it woud be of very General Utility in its Consequences
they flatter themselves the scheme for carrying on such a
Building woud meet with suitable Encouragement from many
other Persons besides your Petitioners & those who have con-
nections with them.

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that they may
have leave to set up & carry on a Publick Lottery to raise
money for the End aforesaid and for that Purpose to bring in a
bill containing such Limitations & Restrictions as shall be

tho't necessary but with such extent & Authority as shall be Sufficient to effect the Design & your Petitioners in Dutybound shall ever Pray &c.

Jno Tuck
Henry Carter
Richard Talpey
John Varrel
William Michamore
William Holbrook
Henry Shapley
Richard Talpey, Jr
Henry Talpey
Daniel Rindle
James Hickey
Samuel Varrel
Samuel Varrel, Jr
John Down
John Down, Jr
Samuel Downe
Jeremiah Lord
Jos. Damrell
Peter Robinson
John Walpey.
Ambrose Perkins
John Barter
W^m Sanderson
George Walpey
Josiah Sanderson
Henry Shapleigh, Jr
Joseph Muchamore
Elamuel Muchamore
Benjⁿ Muchamore
Sami^l Muchamore
Arthur Rendle
Arthur Rendle, Jr
George Rendle
John Rendle
Edw^d Bowdey
Henry W. Andrews
S. Mathews
Jnⁿ Newton
Stephen Pierce

Ja^s Ward
Rich^d Langford
W^m Bickam
Sam^l Healy
John Puriell
Sam^l Currier
Samuel Muchmore
Gregory Puriell
Sam^l Cutts
Daniel Rindge
Geo. Boyd
Nath^l Adams
Jonathan Warner
Thomas Wentworth
John Sherburne
D. Sherburne
Sam^l Warner
Titus Salter
Abraham Trefethen
Hugh Hall Wentworth
W^m Knight
Temple Knight
Samuel Sherburne
Geo: Janvrin
Sari^l Dalling
John Flagg
Joseph Whipple
James Stoodly
Rich. Hart
John Moffat
W^m Whipple
Jno Parker
H. Wentworth
John Penhallow
Thos. Bell
Samuel Moffatt
D. Pierce
Paul March

Province of } In Council June 28th 1766.

New Hamp } Recd & order'd to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.
T. Atkinson Jun. Secry.

Province of }
New Hampsh' } In the House of Representatives, July 3^d 1766.

Voted—That the Petitioners be heard on this petition the second day of the sitting of the general assembly after the first of September next and that the Petitioners at their own cost cause the substance of this Petition and Order of Court to be Published three weeks successively in New Hampshire Gazett that any Person may appear and Shew cause why the Prayer thereof should not be Granted

M. Weare, Cler.

In Council Eodem die
Read & Concurred.

T. Atkinson Jun. Secry.

Province of }
New Hamps } In the House of Representatives Aug^t 28th 1767.

The foregoing Petition being Read & Considered appearing Reasonable & no objection made.

Voted—That the prayer of the petitioner be granted and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

M. Weare, Cler.

In council Eod^m Die—
Read & concurr'd—

T. Atkinson Jun. Secry

GRANTHAM—formerly called NEW GRANTHAM.

[This town was first granted, July 11, 1761; but the conditions not being fulfilled, it was re-granted in 1767, to William Symmes and 63 others. Ed.]

Petition for a new charter.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General,
Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's
Province of New Hampshire & Vice Admiral of the Same
in Council—

The petition of John Sargent of Norwich in the Province of New York. Yeoman by his Attorney, Israel Morey Esq. unto your Excellency & Honours humbly shews:

That your Petitioner has setteld in said Norwich under New Hampshire Grants with a large Family, That being dissatisfied with his living under the Government of New York he hath purchased the Original rights of John Hawks Esq, Rufus Wells, Rufus Fields, Simon Alexander, Elisha Alexander in the Township of New Grantham. with the sole Views of making immediate settlements thereon for himself and sons, but as he has not been able yet to effect it, and the charter being expired he is apprehensive he may meet with Difficulty, wherefore he humbly prays he may be quieted in his said Rights either by the Extension of said Charter to the former Grantees or being made Grantees in a New Charter of said Township, as your Excellency & Honours in your Wisdom may think best for y^r Petitioner and as in Duty bound he will ever pray

JOHN SARGENTS by
Israel Morey, his Attorney.

Portsm^y June 21st 1772.

Petition of Abel Stevens for the same.

Province of New Hampshire—

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General,
Governor & Commandr in Chief in and over his Majestys
said Province of New Hampshire in New England and Vice
Admiral of the same, In Council—

The petition of Abel Stevens in behalf of himself and other
Grantees and proprietors of the township of New Grantham
in the Province aforesaid. Humbly Shews

That the said Township of New Grantham was granted by
Charter bearing date the 8th day of June Anno 1707, under
certain Conditions of Culture &c. &c—The Form of Culture
being particularly express'd to be performed in 5 years vizt,
five acres for every fifty contained in each share on penalty of
the forfeiture of every delinquent share—to be regranted to
others and the Time aforesaid being now elapsed, and the duty
above mentioned not being fully done on any one Right or
share in the said Township—Whereby, according to the strict
construction of the condition aforesaid, the whole of said
Township is forfeited to his Majesty to be regranted as afore-
said—and the petitioner begs leave further to represent

That there are some considerable Improvements already
made in the said Township, and that they have been prevented
from complying with the Terms aforesaid on account of their
remote situation from any Inhabitants, and the Impossibility,
for want of Roads of getting up provisions &c. for their neces-
sary Support and subsistence, with such utensils as were need-
ful to make the required Cultivation—The petitioners there-
fore humbly pray your Excell^y and Honours would not take
advantage of the breach of said Condition, but that you would
be pleased to Extend the Charter of said New Grantham to
the present Grantees for such longer Time as your Excell^y and
honours may think convenient to complete the duty enjoined
by their said Grant—The prospect not being so discouraging
as when they received the former Grant, the said Grantees are
determined to proceed immediately to fulfill the conditions re-
quired by their said Charter, provided Your Excell^y and hon-
ours will be pleased to indulge them in their above said Re-
quest And they as in Duty bound will ever Pray &c.

ABEL STEVENS

In behalf of the
Grantees &c of
New Grantham.

Portsmouth July 4th 1772.

GREENLAND.

[Greenland was originally a part of Portsmouth. Ed.]

Petition of the Inhabitants of Greenland for privileges—1705.

To His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq—Govern^r and Commander in Chiefe in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the same—

The humble Petition of John Johnson Abraham Lewis and Samuell Weeks on behalfe of themselves and the Inhabitants of Greenland, belonging to the Town of Portsmouth

Humbly Sheweth

That there are about three hundred & Twenty persons ; men women and Children in Greenland who are Oblidged to come to the Bank to meeting, and the distance being five and six miles and the season of the yeare occasioning bad travelling as alsoe the danger of the Enemy makes it very difficult and Tedious to gett to the said meeting, or to send their children every day to school being not able to Table them abroad : Soe that your poor petitioners are almost deprived of publickly hearing the word of God or getting their children Educated with Reading and writing And your petitioners have desired at a publick Town meeting to have the Liberty of a minister and schoolmaster among themselves. They paying their sallary and to be Exempted from paying to the minister and schoolmaster at the Bank but there is noe care taken about itt by the Town who continues Silent in the matter.

May it therefore please y^r Excellency to Consider the premise, and to order as you in your prudent Judgment shall seẽ meet relateing to the same whereby yo^r petitioners may obtaine the priviledge of a minister and schoolmaster among themselves as aforesaid, And they as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

JOHN JOHNSON
ABRAHAM LEWIS
SAMUEL WEEKS

5th May 1705

This Petition is referred to the Select men of Portsm^o to make answer and objections if they have any to myselfe in a months time.

J. DUDLEY.

Petition of sundry persons to be joined to Greenland parish.

17th January 1716.

To the Honourable George Vaughan Esq. L^t Governor of his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Honourable his Majesties Counsel—

The Humble petition of the Inhabitants That live on the Pattin adjacent to Greenland who are on this side of the line which was formerly Run between Portsmouth and Exeter beginning att Walls Crick & running to Hampton bounds—Humbly Sheweth

That we the subscribers would humbly pray that we may be joined to Greenland Parrish because we there commonly attend the worship of God, which is abundantly more convenient for us than any other place of publick worship and have diverse of us been helpe full in building an house to worship God In there att s^t Parrish.

We Likewise the Inhabitants of Greenland being a poor & small Parrish Humbly pray your honors to Grant that all the Inhabitants which are within the afore s^d line from Wallis crick to Hampton bounds May be aded to us—We therefore humbly crave your Honours Grant of these our request & your petitioners as In Duty bound shall pray &c.

EBENEZER JOHNSON	} Assesors
JOHN CATÉ,	
JAMES BERREY	
Nathaniel Wright	
Richard White	
Jud. Allen	
Samuell Folsom	
Mikel Hicks	
Joseph Hill	
Walter Philbrick	
John Eveny	
Isaac Foss	
Jonathan Weeks	
Th ^o Letherbe.	

Petition of Greenland for a grant of certain powers, 1720-1.

Province of) To y^r Hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq L^t Govern^r
New Hamp^r) and Command-in Chief for y^r time being, &
to y^r Hon^{ble} y^r Councill of his Majesty^s
Province afores^d.

The petition Jam^s Johnson, Sam^l Weeks & Josh Weeks of Greenland in behalfe of s^t Parrish—Hum^l Sheweth—

That on y^e 15th Instant att a Parrish meeting Law fully conven'd we your Petition^{rs} were elect^d a comitte to address your Hon^r & this Hon^{ble} Board in behalfe of our s^t Parrish for

some further liberty & Priviled^d to be granted in & amongst ourselves for y^t y^r Petition^{rs} have now only y^e liberty of Raising money on y^e Inhabitants there for y^e support of y^e ministry schoole & poor w^{ch} in y^e District: & y^e Province Tax being Raised by the Selectmen & assessors of Portsmⁿ who living Remote cannot possibly be apprized of y^e perticular Capacity of y^e several Inhabitants there—Whereby y^e Tax is many times very unequal— Wherefore your Petition^{rs} Hum^{ly} Pray, y^t your Honours in your Great Wisdom will see cause to order y^t we may be dismissed from y^e Bank from having any tax laid on us there: & y^t we may be freed from y^e charge and Trouble of attending y^e Publick Town meetings there & y^t a Comitte^e be By your Hon^{rs} chosen to Proportion Greenland in y^e Province Rates & y^t y^e same may be Rais^d in Equal Proportion by our own assessors & y^t Mr Treasurer be Direc^d to issue forth his Precept to our Parrish for y^e End & y^t we may choose a constabl amongst our selves to collect y^e assessments y^t are from time to time made & y^t we may be allow^d y^e Privilidge of choosing one assembly man in our Parrish to Represent us in Gen^l Assem^{ly} we paying him out of the Parrish stock which Grant^d y^e Petition^{rs} shal as in Duty bound ever pray &c.

18, Mar. 1720-1

JAM^s JOHNSON
SAM^l WEEKS
JOSH. WEEKS.

March 21st at a Council—

Psent y^e Lt Gov^r Wentworth, Sam^l Penhallow Esq. Rich^d Wibird, Coll^o Walton Esq. Tho^s Westbrook, Esq. George Jaffrey—

The above Petition Read, and Granted and Ordered that a com^{it}tee upon Oath take an account of y^e Rateable Estate of y^e District of Greenland by w^{ch} y^e Proportion of the Prov. Tax, is to be Settled who are to make Return to this board, that the Treasurers warrant be made out accordingly.

Petition of Greenland for a Township.

To His Excellency Samuel Shute Esq^r Capt Gen^l & Com^{and} in Cheif & Over His Maj^{ty} Prov. of New Hamp^{sr} and to the Hon^{rs} the Council of s^t Province—

The Humble Petition of Sam^l Weeks James Johnston & Mathias Haines of Greenland Parish in the Town of Portsmⁿ in y^e Prov. of N. Hamp^{sr} afores^d for themselves & in behalf of s^t Parish. Humbly Sheweth.

That yo^r Petitioners are a district of Portsmⁿ and always have been accounted Part of s^t Portsmouth. and have paid Rates in s^t Town accordingly, and but very Lately have been made a Separate Parrish, and the Town of Portsmⁿ afores^d having obtained a grant of yo^r Excellency & Hon^{rs} for a Township.

Yo^r Petitioners Humbly pray that yo^r Excellency & Hon^{rs} would be pleased to Ord^r that yo^r Petitioners, as they all along have paid their part of the charges & help to support the warrs against the enemy as inhabitants of Portsmⁿ afore^{sd} That they may now Reap the benefit of the aforesaid Grant of Land in proportion wth their neighbours—the other inhabitants of s^t Portsmouth or that yo^r Petitioners may have an Equivalent of Land adjoining to the afores^d Grant, Granted unto us.

And yo^r Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever Pray :

SAM^l WEEKS,
JAMES JOHNSTON.
MATTHIAS HAINES.

Portsm May 10th 1722.

Portsmouth votes relating to Greenland.

Att a Gen^l Town meeting held in Portsmⁿ y^e 4th June, 1705 :

Where as y^e Town of Portsmⁿ payes £100 p Annum for y^e support of their minister in s^t Town— Att the Request of y^e inhabitants of Greenland part of s^t Town considering y^e Distance of Ground y^e number of persons & y^e Danger of passing to Public worship,

Voted, That y^e Inhabitants of Greenland be paid out of the Town stock their proportion of s^t £100 During y^e Maintenance of an able Minister amongst them and no longer & y^e s^t Proportion be yearly, Proportion^d by the selectmen for time being y^e Bounds of Greenland to be on y^e south side of coll Packers farne.

Pr Sam^l Keais, Town clerk.

True Copsy out of y^e third Book of Records for Portsmⁿ : foll. 12 :

p Josh. Peirce,
Town cler.

15 Mar. 1719-20

1706. Att a Gen^l Town meeting in Portsmⁿ y^e 8th April, 1706,

Voted. That y^e Inhabitants of Greenland in this Town being freed from paying y^e proportion of Rates for y^e Ministry fix'd att Strawberry Bank in consideration of their maintaining a minister amongst themselves y^e s^t Inhabitants of Greenland having procured y^e they may have 150 acres of land out of y^e comons lying & being att Greenland: Bounded to y^e Sow west End of y^e Great Swamp & y^e s^d 150 acres to be taken out or Deduct^d from w^{ch} may fall to y^e share of s^d inhabitants of Greenland of s^d comons whenever there shall be a Division of all y^e Towns comons y^e s^d 150 acres to be laid out by y^e Lott layers where it may be most convenient for y^e ministry & school for y^e use of that part of y^e Town.

Sam^l Keais, Town Cler.

True copsy from y^e 3^d Book of Record for Portsmⁿ foll : 13th

Josh : Peirce, Town Cler.

15th Mar. 1719-20.

And That the Parish of Greenland be bounded upon the Great Bay by the farm of y^e widow Jackson, Joshua Peirce, & Israel March: & so to Packers bridge, and thence to Joshua Haines, M^r Cates & Edw^d Ayres's farm and from thence southwesterly to Hampton bounds: and that these Present Inhabitants with the lands and estates they live upon & whosoever shall live upon them hereafter or build & Inhabit within the limits aforesaid, shall pay their Parish Taxes to Greenland.

The Above is an Extract out of y^e Council book pass'd by the Gen^l Assembly y^e 28th of July, 1714.

Attest.

Rich^d Waldron, Cler. con.

Petition of inhabitants of Breakfast Hill (1).

To the hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq. Liut Govern^r & Comander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of New Hampshire to y^e hon^{ble} the Council & house of representatives Conven'd in Gen^l Assembly.

The humble Request of us the Subscribers inhabitants about Breakfast hill & owners of Land neare Greenland meeting house, humbly Desires, That whereas we are soe neare said meeting house & have paid our part towards the maintenance of y^e Ministry there Ev^r since it hath been built, Y^e for the future wee may be by act of Government set of towards payment of the ministry to y^e place It being most convenient for us by many miles—& your Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

May 25th 1725.

his mark

Thomas O bery

Joⁿ his O mark, bleak

Isaac his s mark, foos

James fooler desires to pay to

Greenland & *Saule-beck* be a

parish of themselves.

James Whidden

James Johnson

R. Wibird

John Wheden

(1) So called from the circumstance that a party of Indians in 1696, after an early attack on inhabitants of Portsmouth, and the slaughter of fourteen persons, hastily retreated, and stopped on the declivity of a hill, (now in Greenland) and took breakfast; ever since it has retained the name of Breakfast Hill. See vol. ii, Prov. Pap. p. 189, note. Et.

Petition for extension of boundary lines.

Province of) To the hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq. Liut
New Hamp^r) Govon^r & Comander in Chief in and over his
Maj^{ties} Province of New Hampshire and to
the hon^{ble} the Councill & house of Representatives Conven'd in Gen^l Assembly for s^d
Province.

The humble Petition of Capt Samuell Weeks, Capt Joshua Weeks & Mr John Cate.

In the behalfe of the Poore parrish of Greenland as they are Impowered by said parrish to represent the same with the select men of Greenland.

humbly Sheweth.

That whereas by a vote formerly of the Town of Portsmouth (of which the said Greenland is a part) It was voted that Greenland Bounds should be on the South side of Packers farm (which suppose is now Doctor Marches) and Whereas by a Vote of the Gen^l Assembly 28th July 1714. Its said that Greenland bounds to Packers Bridge and thence to Joshua Haineses M^r Cates & Edw^d Ayerses farm, The Same is verry Ambiguous Whether these are included or Excluded and alsoe Mr Edward Ayers at that time had two farms Southwest of s^d Packers or Marches farm—& it is not mention'd which—And Whereas Cap^t Langdon & the comittee that made the last return: run the line from said Marches farm to Edward Ayres Southwesterly farm. Exclusive of said Farm: which line comes to Northward of Berry Brook in the Rhoad to Sandy Beech, which is not above a mile from Greenland Meeting house, and Excludes fifteen families that live about Breakfast hill from y^e s^d Parrish of Greenland that used to pay there towards maintenance of the ministry & lyes most convenient for them to come there. The loss of so many families is verry Great & Grievous to your verry poore petitioners:

Therefore your humble Petitioners Humbly prays (That considering your said parrish of Greenland consists chiefly in verry poore Inhabitants) and Containes a verry small Quantity of Ground: Great Part of said Parrish being not three Quarters of a mile Deep & In the Deepest or Widest place verry little above a mile—That they containe a small Compass of Ground & no probability of Increasing themselves—humbly prays your consideration & order that theire line betwixt them and Portsmouth may Extend Due south from Marches farm to y^e farm M^r Edward Ayers Bought of the Adm^r of Richard Jose Esq Deceas'd and thence South East to New Castle line which line will take in the fifteen families afore s^d and suppose the line formerly Intended—But if it should seem meet to your hon^{rs} to take these fiteene families from said Parrish it would occasion theire Breaking up not being able of themselves that remaine to support the charges of the Ministry with the other contingents on them.

All the Comittees that Ever made any retorne relating to a Divissionale line being all of Portsmouth they made it as much in theire favor as possible by all Strain'd construction—Therefore if your hon^{rs} se not meet to Grant us the line Desier'd, That then y^e hon^{rs} will appoint a Comittee of som other Towns (wholly Indifferent) to make and settle a line as they shall see

convenient, according to Portsmouth Town Voate, in 1705 and in Greater Certainty than hath as yet been Don. And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

May 19th 1725.

JOHN CATE
JOSHUA WEEKS
EBENEZER JOHNSON
MATHIAS HAINES
SAM^l WEEKS

May y^e 26th 1725.

In the House of Representatives

read, and ordered that the Select men of Portsm^o be serv'd with a copy of the petition and they to notify the town of Portsmouth, To Appaere the second day of the setting of the next Gen^l Assembly to show cause (if any they can) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted.

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m

In coun^t Eod^m die.

Read and concurred

Rich^d Waldron

Petition relating to tax warrant.

Province of) To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq.
New Hamp^t } Captain General Governor and Commander
in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of
New Hampshire. The Hon^{ble} his Majesties Councill and
House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened
—Jan. 12th 1763.

Humbly Shews—James Bracket & Simon Dearborn both of Greenland in said Province yeomen and two of the selectmen of said Greenland for the year 1762 the Maj. part for themselves & in behalf of the Inhabitants of said Greenland that the selectmen of said Greenland for said year Raised a Tax on the said inhabitants and gave a list thereof to Joseph Pickerin Constable of said Greenland for said year with a warrant, and the hands of the Majour part of the said selectmen, in consequence thereof the said constable hath made distress on sundry of the said Inhabitants of said Greenland who refused to pay their Respective Taxes and for which sundry actions are brot against him to the Inferior court to be held in March next, and on examining the warrant aforesaid, it appears that the Selectmen have neglected to seal the same, which is thought necessary by Law, and if so will greatly hurt said Inhabitants, for altho most of them may not dispute it, yet there are many that do & so pay no Tax this year, Besides bringing a great charge on the said Inhabitants for the suits already commenced & others that may be, wherefore the Petitioners as

aforesaid Humbly pray the advisement of this Hon^{ble} Court on the Premises—and that you will be pleased to pass such Order thereon as to make the said Warrant good & Valid The want of seals notwithstanding or grant such other Relief thereon as to you shall seem meet. And your petitioners as aforesaid shall as in duty bound ever pray.

JAMES BRACKETT } Selectmen
SIMEON DEARBON } of
Greenland

Province of } In the house of Representatives Jan^y 19, 1763. This
New Hamps^r } petition being Read

Voted That they be heard thereon on fryday next, & that they Cause the sundry persons who prosecuted the constable for Illegally making Distraint to be notified thereof that they may be present if they see cause.

A. Clarkson clerk.

In council Eod^m Die.

Read & concurr'd.

T. Atkinson Jr Secry.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Jan^y 21, 1763
New Hamps^r }

The party being heard on the within Petition— Voted & Resolved that the Warrant Referr'd unto in the within Petition is a good & Lawfull Warrant, the want of seals notwithstanding, and also resolved that all the warrants given by any selectmen or assessors singly or conjunctly within this Province for the Collecting of any Rates or Taxes for the year 1762 shall be Looked upon and accounted legal and Valid the want of seal or Seals notwithstanding

H. Sherburne Speaker.

In Council Jan^y 22^d 1763

Read & concurr'd with this addition (viz), That if the Plaintiffs mentioned in the within Petition, shall withdraw their suits & not prosecute them, that in that case no complaint be Receiv'd for cost in such actions from the constable or other Defendant in any of the actions aforesaid

T. Atkinson, Jun^r Secry.

Province of } In the house of Representatives Jan^y 25th 1763.
New Hampr^r }

Read and Concurr'd.

H. Sherburne Speaker

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for representation in the General Assembly.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Capt. Gen^l and Commander in cheif in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of New Hampshire, the hon^{ble} the councill & house of Representatives conven'd in Gen^l Assembly.

The humble Petition of Capt Joshua Weeks Ebenezer Johnson & Matthias Haines, Select men for the parrish of Greenland in s^d Province In behalfe of the said Parrish, most humbly Sheweth—

That the Parrish of Greenland for severall years past since they have been set of from Portsmouth have not had the Benefit of having a voat in makeing choice of any person to sit in the Gen^l Assembly, and therefore are humbly of opinion that they are much Grieved in not having any person to Represent them in Gen^l Assembly nor any Vote in the choice of any other :

Therefor y^r humble Petitioners most humbly prays For themselves and in Behalfe of said parrish of Greenland That your excellencie & hon^r &c will as in y^r wisdom you shall see meet to make such order act or Law so that your Petitioners may have the liberty of other Towns or precincts to have the choice of some one of their Freeholders to Represent them in the Gen^l Assembly & your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

JOSHUA WEEKS
EBENEZER JOHNSON
MATTHIAS HAINES

May the 10th 1732.

In the house of Representatives.

Voted, that the prayer of the Petition be answered and that his Excellencie be desired to Issue out a precept for an assembly man to appear at the next sessions in the fall—

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^z

May the 12th 1732.

In council May 13, 1732

Read & Concurred

R Waldron, Sec'y

I assent to the foregoing vote, May 15, 1732.

J. BELCHER

GROTON—formerly COCKERMOUTH.

[Groton was incorporated 7th Dec., 1796. It was granted by the name of Cockermonth, Nov. 22, 1766. Ed.]

Petition of John Hale and Samuel Hobart for a re-grant.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire.

In Council December 4th 1771.

The memorial of John Hale & Samuel Hobart, for themselves & a number of Others his Majestys subjects, Purchasers from the Grantees of a Tract of Land in the Province aforesaid of the Contents of about six miles square, which was

granted 22 November 1766, by the name of Cockermouth on Certain Conditions therein specified, and the said Grantees have not been able to comply therewith, for sundry Reasons—The great Difficulty the first settlers have undergone, for want of Roads through other Towns adjacent & the discouragementⁿ they have met with, by a long & expensive Law suit with the Proprietors of Plymouth &c and the time of settlement being now elapsed whereby part of the said Town becomes Forfeited & reverts to his Majesty

Your memorial^r humbly Pray that they may be favour'd with a Regrant of said Tract of Land & further time to settle the same in such manner as your Excellency & Honours shall see fit. & to Exclude such delinquent Proprietors of the Former Charter as have not done their proper share of Duty. and upon the usual conditions and your Memorial^{rs} as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

JOHN HALE
SAM^l HOBART

Memorial of James Goold and others about a Petition of Samuel Livermore.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Cap-
New Hamp^s } tain General Governor & commander in chief
in and over his Majestys Province of New
Hampshire and the Honourable his Majestys
Council, most humbly sheweth—

That your petitioners are Inhabitants in the Easterly part of Cockermouth that most of us have lived there a considerable number of years, with our families—that we have been at great cost & Expence in clearing and cultivating the land, building houses making Roads, Bridges &c all which we chearfully performed, and sundry of us have made such Improvements that by the produce thereof with a common blessing we are able to Git a comfortable support—That when we first Began our settlement we proceeded in a Regular manner having in the first place (most of us with the other proprietors) Purchased a Charter of his Excellency the late Governor of the Township of Cocker mouth, which Town ship sundrey years before that time had been survey^d and Lay^d out as by a plan by which we purchased said Town will appear and many of which Bounds According to said plan are plainly to be seen to this day, which bounds are Agreeable to the Late plan or map of the Province made by Docter Langdon and Major Blanchard, which are plainly to be seen to this day, & that we are all settled fairly & clearly within the old lines & Boundaries of said Cocker

mouth where we Expected to enjoy the Benefit of our Labour peaceably and Quietly, and with an Encouragement and expectation of having the Gospel settled amongst us & as Good and Loyal subjects to our King having as far as in our power complied with his Royal Instructions with Respect to the settlements that we have made where we now dwell—And Whereas Samuel Livermore Esq has Petitioned your Excellency & Honours praying that the Westerly line of Plymouth may be Extended westerly to a place called Fletchers corner which is a mile or more farther west than the antient & proper Line of Plymouth and which would be Taking off a mile of Cocker mouth and is the Land where we all Live: If the prayer of said Petition should be Granted and by which means we and our Houses and all our Improvements would be taken off from Cockermouth, and by that Means we should loose all that we have in the world & we & our familys be Reduced to poverty. We Humbly Conceive that Granting the prayer of Mr Livermores Petition is only to Serve the Particular Interest of a few Individuals who are Interest in the Common Land in Plymouth, Who cannot by any Means have any Just Right to our Land for they have already much more land than is Given them by their Charter without this addition. and Plymouth as a Town Do not appear to be Benefitted by the addition, and are not Desirous of any such Thing, and Whereas Mr John Fenton appears to joyn with Mr Livermore in said Petition, by Consenting that it should be Granted setting forth that he is a patintee of Three Thousand acres in the Land Petitioned for &c. We humbly Conceive that they have been laying their schemes to gether in order to injure and hurt us and to Take away from us our Substance, which we humbly conceive we are Justly Intitled to by virtue of our fulfilling his Majestys Instructions.

No Doubt but Mr Fenton has a just Right to Three Thousand acres of his Majestys un Cultivated ungranted Land, but not any Right to our Houses and Improvements, any more than he has to our persons to be slaves to him—Wherefore we most humbly pray your Excellency & Honours attention & Consideration on this matter which is of Great Importance to us and that you would be pleased to Interfere and protect us in the peaceable and Quiet Enjoyment of our Infant settlement in the Wilderness and that you would not Grant the prayer of that Petition, nor put it Into the Power of Mr Livermore or Mr Fenton or any other person to Molest or Destress us and we as in Duty bound shall ever pray

James Goold,
Simeon Lovejoy
Nathaniel Ball
Ebenezer Melven
Thomas Nevens

[No date.]

Ebenezer Melven Jr
Jacob Lovejoy
Jonas Hobart
Thomas Neven Jr
Samuel Farley

HAMPSTEAD.

[This town was incorporated 19 of January, 1749. ED.]

Petition for a Parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief In and Over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England. And to the Honourable His Majesties Council and house of Representatives in General Court Assembled. Jan 1. 1743-4

The Humble petition of the subscribers Inhabitants in the Province aforesd. Sheweth.

That the greater part of your Petitioners are Inhabitants of the Land in Controversie between Kingstown and Haverhill— That one part of us hold our Land of Haverhill and the other of Kingstown. That However the Right of the soil may be disputed. we are without Dispute of New Hampshire Government. That your Petitioners are at such a Distance from every Parish Meeting house as Renders our attending publick Worship upon the Sabbath in any of our Neighbouring Congregations Exceeding Difficult. and to many of us quite Impracticable. That we are therefore obliged to procure some person to preach to us or else to live without the Benefit of that Ordinance. May it therefore please your Excellency and Honours to take our case under your Wise consideration, and either Vest us with Parish Powers with the following bounds viz. Begining at a Crooked red oak tree standing in London Derry line from thence runing Eastwardly three miles on Bryants line Thence Northwardly to a bridge called Capt Ingalls Bridge thence westerly so as to comprehend the Dwelling house of one Jacob Wells from thence to the Corner Beach tree on Chester line and from thence upon London Derry line to the bounds first mentioned. Or If this may not at present be granted at least to pass an Act to Impower us for a time to assess and Levie Taxes upon the inhabitants within the bounds above sd for the support of the Gospel and other Incident Charges and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Subscribers.

John Hoog
William Moulton
William Stevens
Peter Easman
Michell Johnson
Hugh Tallant
John Atwood
Israel Huse
Nathaniel Harriman

Samuel Worthen, Jr
George Little, Jr
Samuel Watts
Benjamin Philbrick
Jonathan Kimball
Ezekiel Little
Jeremiah Eatton
Sam^l Stevens. Jr
John Johnson

William Eastman
 David Copps
 John Muzzy
 Joseph Stevens, Jr
 Daniel Roberds
 Daniel Roberds, Jr
 Ebenezer Gill
 Nathaniel Heath
 Joseph Stevens
 Daniel Johnson
 Thomas Croford
 James Mills
 Zechariah Johnson
 William Hancock
 James Heath
 Steven Emerson
 Benjamin Emerson
 Caleb Heath

David Heath
 William Heath
 Robert Ford
 John Kezar
 George Kezar
 Otho Stevens
 James Johnson
 Onediah Davis
 Josiah Davis
 Joseph Little
 Moses Tucker
 John Bond
 Jonathan Bond
 Daniel Heberd
 James Graves
 James Cook
 Jonathan Gile
 Samuel Stevens

In the House of Representatives Apr 18th 1744. The within Petition Read and Voted that the Petitioners (at their own charge) serve the Selectmen of King-ton with a Copy of this Petition and the Votes thereon that they may appeare the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the first day of May next.

James Jeffrey Cler. Assm

Vote of Kingston, setting off certain persons for a new Parish, &c.

Prov. of New Hamp.

At a Legall meeting of the Inhabitants & freeholders of Kingstown held the 24th of September, 1746.

1st Lev^d John Swett was chosen moderator of that meeting.

2^d Voted, That we do hereby as far as in us lieth sett off

Moses Tucker
 Israel Huse
 James Huse
 James Graves
 John Bond
 Jacob Wells
 Meshach Gurdy
 John Straw Jr
 William Straw
 Philip Wells
 Jacob Tucker
 Joseph Dow

John Straw
 Jonathan Colby
 Daniel Hibbard
 Daniel Kidd
 Jacob Gurdy
 David Straw
 Reuben Clough
 Israel Huse, Jr
 John Pressey
 Benjamin Tucker
 John Hogg &
 Orlando Colby

of Kingstown above 'sd with a certain Tract of Land in s^d town for a Distinct Parish or Precinct Bounded as followeth viz: be-
 gining at the Beach tree which is the Dividing Boundary between
 London Derry and Chester s^d Tree standing on y^e west line of
 s^d Kingstown and Running Southerly on s^d Kingstown said Line as
 heretofore settled between s^d London Derry & s^d Kingstown to the Is-
 lands Pond (so called) then Running East and B South three miles.
 Then Northerly Till a North & B West Course will strike s^d Kingstown

line where it crosses the mill Brook (so called) as heretofore settled between s^d Kingstown & s^d Chester & from thence viz where s^d Line Crosses s^d mill Brook to run Southerly on s^d line to the Beach tree first mentioned.

This is a true copy taken out of Kingstown Book of Records.

Attest

Jed. Philbrick, Town Clerk.

Petition of Richard Hazzen, &c., about support of Rev. James Cushing.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour & Commander in Cheif in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England & to the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Councill & House of Representatives in Generall Court assembled at Portsmouth for s^d Province, May 1748.

Humbly Shews.

Richard Hazzen for himself and in behalfe of the Inhabitants of that Part of Haverhill district commonly called Timberlane.

That the Inhabitants of said Timberlane have for the greatest part of fifteen years past at a verry great cost and charge hired a minister to preach amongst them and at the same time been Excused from paying any thing towards the support of the Rev^d Mr James Cushing.

That the Rev^d Mr Cushings Hearers (Exclusive of said Timberlane) live about two thirds of them on the North Side of the Boundary Line and in this Province and the other third on y^e other side on which side lyes also the greatest part of his Personage or Glebe Lands

That at a meeting of the District in November last Pursuant to the selectmens warrant It was agreed & Voted that the inhabitants living on this side of y^e line (meaning those who lived out of Timberlane limits) should pay the Rev^d Mr Cushing Two Hundred pounds for his support this year. Old Tenor on consideration of the Depreciating of the money &c which would have been a small matter more than what they paid last year.

That some time afterwards at a Legall meeting of the afore s^d Districts. The inhabitants of Timberlane were by vote set off from Mr Cushings Parish and near the same lines which a committee Sent By your Excellency & the Hon^{ble} Council thought proper to be done as appears by their Report.

That notwithstanding the meaning & intent of the afore s^d Vote respecting M^r Cushings Support by which the Inhabitants of Timber lane ought to have been excused from paying any thing thereto & after they were set off from Mr Cushings

Parish as much as the District had a power to do. The assessors have rated us to Mr Cushing and thereby made their own Taxes much less than last year, & taken away our money from us which we should have had to pay our own minister

That we have been thereby necessitated to make a Rate amongst Our selves to pay our minister but as we had no legall power to do it some refuse to pay, so that we are now in a verry deplorable Condition unless your Excellency & Honours will Interpose on our behalfe.

We therefore Humbly & Earnestly request your Excellency & Honours to compassionate our circumstances & give Such Orders that we may be excused from paying to y^e Rev^d Mr James Cushing & at the same time that he may not be cheated and defrauded of his honest due, & that we may be Impowered to raise a Tax amongst our Selves to pay our own minister or that you will afford us Such other Relief as to your Excellency & Honours shall think best for us.

And for your Excellency & Honours your Humble petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

RICHARD HAZZEN

for himself & in behalf of y^e Inhabitants of Timberlane.
May 12th 1748.

*Petition of Edward Flynt and others to be annexed to
Hampstead.*

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England & to the Hon^{ble} the Council of said Province.

Humbly Shews,

The petition of Edward Flynt. Samuel Stevens & others the Subscribers that your petitioners Liveing in that part of Haverhill District commonly called Timberlane have always together with the other Inhabitants chearfully paid their Taxes & when a petition was preferr^d by the said Inhabitants to your Excellency & Honours to be incorporated into a Township, your petitioners signed y^e said petition & hoped that when the Township was incorporated that not only your petitioners Houses but their estates also would have been taken within y^e charter being much more for the Interests of your petitioners than to be put any where Else.

But so it is may it please your Excellency & Honours that by the Charter of Hampstead lately Granted, your petitioners Estates are so Divided that near one half lye within the Town of Hampstead & the other half is left out notwithstanding

their Lands have for many years past been fence^d in and improved & being so Divided & Split by the said Lines it is to the verry great damage of your petitioners

We therefore earnestly request your Excellency & Honours to annex our whole lands to Hampstead according to our first petition.

And for your Excellency & Honours your Humble petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

EDW^d FLINT
SAM^l STEVENS
NEHEMIAH STEVENS
DAVID STEVENS
SAM^a STEVENS
W^m STEVENS
JOSEPH STEVENS

Hampstead,
February 14th 1749.

HAMPTON and HAMPTON FALLS.

[Hampton belonged originally to Massachusetts, and was settled by people from that Colony, in 1638. In 1680, it was separated from Massachusetts and joined to New Hampshire. Hampton Falls was incorporated as a Parish in 1712. Ed.]

Petition of Selectmen about taxes.

To the Honorable y^e Lieut Governor and Counsell &c: with the Assembly now sitting att New Castle

The humble petition of us y^e Select men of Hampton Sheweth

That y^e petitioners by warrant from y^e Treasurer to make an assessment of 230^l^s and y^e through a mistake in making y^e Rate have made it 04^l short of s^d Sums and y^e time being now out according to s^d Warrant and yo^r petitioners not having power to Asses y^e Remainder Humbly pray yo^r Honors to impower y^e Treasurer to Grant a warrant to us y^e sd select men & Commissioⁿ and yo^r petition^{rs} will forthwith Make y^e Rate for y^e Remainder, & yo^r petitioners will by y^e blessing of God never be wanting to pray for your Hon^{rs}

JOHN MOULTON
ABRA. GREEN
JN^s DEERBARNE
PETER WEARE

THOS PHILBRICK
PHILEMON DALTON
JN^s TUCKE
Selectmen of Hampton

May y^e 20th 1695.

Voated, That y^e Selectmen are Impowered to make assessment on

their Inhabitants according to there petition for adjusting that Rate past by y^e Assemble

John Pickerin, Clark

Past by the Councile

W^m Bedford Dept Secry

Petition of Abraham Drake and others about a tract of land in Kingstown.

To his Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq. Capt. Generall and Governour in Cheif in & over Her Majestys province of the Massatusetts Bay & New Hampshir &c

The petition of y^e selectmen of y^e Town of Hampton in New Hampshire in behalf of y^e freeholders & Comissioners of y^e s^d town Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioners this last sumer had Judgment given in favour of Mr Peter Wear at two Courts the Charge where of cost them more than 50 pounds, for not laying out a Tract of land at a place formerly called New-plantation since called Kingstown which s^r Grant was to John Marston who sold all his Rights in Hampton unto one Deacon Page more than 40 years since which s^r Page hath ever since enjoyed his Rights & devisons of lands in Hampton above s^r untill this last sumer y^e said Peter Weare produced a pretended deed of conveyance from y^e s^r John Marston Writen & Signed at Andover & y^e same day acknowledged by his Father Nathaniell Wear Esq. in New Hampshire by s^r John Marston, which Deed is much to be suspected for a fraudulent Deed, for y^e if y^e said John Marston were living at y^e time of y^e Date of s^d Deed which is much questioned, yett certainly he was dead before any such instruments appeared, and it is farther evident by testimonies of y^e Reaverent Mr Barnard minister of y^e town togeather with other principle men of Andover, y^e y^e s^r John Marston by Reason of age had not been able for some years before his death to go to y^e publick worship not of a disposing mind & memory much less able to travill in so short a time to acknowledge a deed in New Hampshire when there were so many justices in his way, thether, besides severall other testimonies who are of y^e s^r John Marstons neer Relation who heard him say y^e Mr Wear had been at him to sell him a piece of land at New plantation, but he would not do it. Wee therefore lay this our humble petition before your Excellency, together with y^e Above mentioned Evidences and pray y^e as y^e said Nathaniell Weare Esq is in publicke place of trust, and whose signing an acknowledgment is of more vallue than two creadable Witnes & without which no Deed by Law can be executed nor Re-

corded, we pray y^r y^e said Esq. Weare may answer possitively whether he ever saw y^e said John Marston of Andover in this province of New Hampshire since y^e Date of y^e said Deed made to his son Peter Wear by s^d Marston, that so y^e truth may appear, it being y^e truth of all Testimony or Record y^e makes them vallued, and y^e said Esq. Wear hath been summoned to y^e Court & paid his charge, yet will Say nothing but puts to prove possitively y^e Marston did not grant to his son Peter or y^e he was not in y^e province of New Hampshire to acknowledge it &c. The proceeding to y^e finding out y^e truth wee have no cause to doubt but your Excellency will Justly do & your petitioners shall ever pray as in duty bound

ABRAHAM DRAKE	} Selectmen
JOHN MOULTON	
PETER JOHNSON	
SAMUEL DOW	

Dated 13th of November 1708.

Certificate of Nathaniel Weare.

16 November 1708.

Nath^l Weare Esq. being Exam^d before his Excellency the Governor and Council Whether he took the acknowledgment of one John Marston, formerly of Andover dec^d to a Deed of Conveyance from the said Marston to Peter Weare dated the thirteenth day of May one thousand seven hundred and seven and now produced in court, and where the said Marston was when he acknowledged the said Deed and at What time.

Mr Weare Answered that he being at Andover the 13th day of May 1707 he went to the House of the said John Marston about noon and exhibited the above said Deed to the said John Marston since dec^d he being then in his Right senses and the said Marston did then & there of his own free & voluntary Will acknowledge the same to be his act and Deed.

Exam^d before publick Councill the 16th Nov^r 1708.

Chas. Story, Secretary.

Certificate of Jabez Smith.

Ham^{ps} May 17th 1721.

Mr Greenough Sir. We Received y^r Order of Assembly & in Obedience to s^d Order We Gave Notis to y^e Freeholders In said town to meet this Day att three of y^e Clock After Noon & accordingly thay did meet & the Order of Assembly was red to them & y^e Constable Desired them to Bring in there Vots, but thay Brought none in.

Sir I am yours to Sarve,

Jabez Smith in behalf of y^e Select men.

Petition for leave to make a separate tax.

To His Honour John Wintworth Esq. L^d Governour and Comander in Chief in & over his majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Honorable the Members of the Council & Representatives Now sitting in Generall Assembly.

The humble address & Petition of his Majesties Loyall and Deutifull Subjects Inhabittence of the falls or South Parish in hampton most humbly sheweth

That as there was formerly an act past that the Whole Town of Hampton should Raise thair Province & Ministars Rates to gether, wee of the falls parish finding many disadvantages in not having power to raise those Rates singly by our selves and in particular wee want to make an alteration & addition to our Ministers Sallery which wee cannot well doo by reason of our being obliged to Raise our Rates in Generall to gether in the whole town we have no Power to Raise for any addition by our selves.

Wee therefore Pray that wee may be freed from that act and may have power given us in our Parish to raise our province and ministry Rates by our selves, that whatsoever wee have or shall agree with our minister for—wee may have power to perform and doo therein as the Law gives power to a town, as in all other Rates wee are single by our selves wee may be so in the province and ministers Rates likewise.

As in your wisdom you shall think fit and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

In behalf and by order of the Inhabitants of s^d Parish.

NATH ^l WEARE	} Selectmen.
ICHABOD ROBIE	
NATH ^l HEALEY	

In Council Apr^l 11th 1726

Voted, upon reading y^e above Petition That y^e selectmen of y^e first Parish of Hampton be served forthwth with a copy of s^d Petition by the Petitioners & be notified that the hearing upon s^d Petition is appointed to be on Thursday next at 10 oclock A. M. that they may convene the s^d Parish to chuse an Agent or agents to appear before the Gen^l Ass^{em} at y^e s^d time to shew cause if any they have why the Prayer of the s^d Petition should not be granted.

Rich^d Waldron, Cler. Con.

Eodem Die

In the house of Representatives.

The within Petition was Read and the Vote thereon and the vote concured with this amendment (that whereas in the within vote for the first p^{ish} to be Notified to appeare next thursday) Voted—That the selectmen of y^e first p^{ish} in Hampton be served with a copy of the Petition and to appeare (& shew cause if any they have) why the Prayer of the Petitioner may not be granted the next sitting of the Gen^l Ass^m, the second day of their sitting

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m

In Coun. Eod. Die

Concurr'd wth the amendm^t

Rich^d Waldron, Clr. con.

Province of New Hampshire, 9^{br} 23^d 1726

After hearing the deputies for each of the Parishes in Hampton relating to the Petition In the house of Representatives 9^{br} 23^d 1726,

Voted—That the prayer of the petition be granted so farr, viz. That the south parrish of Hampton called the falls parrish be impowered fully & Seperately by themselves to make a Rate on all p'sons & Estates within said p'ish for the payment of theire ministers sallary at all Times hereafter, and be utterly free from having anything to do with the first p'ish, or the first p'ish in Hampton with them, relating to the ministers sallary.

James Jeffry Clr. Assⁿ

Read and Concurred.

In Coun Eod. die

Read & Concurred

R. Waldron cler. con

Request relating to highways.

Request being made to us the select men of Hampton falls or south Parish by sundry of the Inhabitants of the northwest part of s^d Parish

Theire Request to us is that wee would perfect the highways where there was Land Left for high ways between the Ranges of Lots in the first West deviation so called and parrict other high ways where thay are wanting to be perfected accordingly we have dune as follows

The first high way wee Layd out is begining at the deviding Line between Hampton and Kings town, & so Runing Esterly at the north Eand of the Lots in the 5th Rang in the first west deviation, so called s^d high way to be 2 Rods wide northerly from the bounds of s¹ Lots through s^d division and from thence as the way now goeth to John Prescuts and from thence as the way now Goeth to the top of the hill by Jonathan Sweets s¹ highway to be 2 Rods wide and from thence as the way now goeth to Grapvine Run. this part of s^d highway to be 3 Rods wide and from thence as the high way now goeth to y^e Contrey Road by Co^l Wears 2 Rods Wide

2^d And have lay'd out an other high way begining at s^d deviding Line and Runing Easterly at y^e north Eand of the Lots in the 6 Range of lots in the afore s^d division as s^d Lots are bounded to Lay northerly of s¹ bounds 2 Rods wide to the way that goeth from Richard Sanburns by James Sanbuns except it be at a great Rock in s^d way against Stephen Hobbes Land and theire s^d high way to Lay one Rod to the Northward of s^d Rock.

3^d And have Layed another high way from the deviding Line between Hampton & Exeter Runing Southerly at the side of the Estermost Lot in the 7th Range in s^d deviation to the way Last mentioned 2 Rods wide

4th And have Layed out another high way from s^d deviding Line between Hampton & Exeter Runing south at y^e Esterly Eands of the Lots in the 8th Rang of Lots in s^d deviation through s^d deviation 2 Rods wide

5th And have Lay'd another high way from s^d deviding line between Hampton & Exeter near Wadly Crams Runing Southerly at the Esterly Eands of the Lots in the 9th Range of Lots in s^d deviation as the

Lots in sd devision are bounded to the high way at John Prescuts aforementioned 2 Rods wide and this wee make our Return this 20th day of Feb. 1733-4

MOSES BLAKE	}	Select
ELISHA PURINTUN		men of
JOHN BACHELDOR		Hampton falls or South Parish

Vera Copia.

attest,

Jon^a Fifield Parish Clerk

Petition relating to a Parish.

To the Honourable hous of Representatives of this his Majesties Province of New Hampshire Greeting.

Gentlemen we your honours humble petitioners humbly sheweth that whereas his Honour y^e Governor with his Majestys Counsel in answer to a petition from hampton did Grant a parish at North Ende of said town as shall apear by a Coppy of s^t grant, but it did not com to the honorable hous of Representatives for their concurranc thearwith Thearefore we your honours humble petitioners humbly crave your concurrence theare with, and in so doing you will much oblege us your humble Servants As in duty bound we shall ever pray,

Hampton November 30, 1730.

Simon Marston
Maurice Hobbs
Timothy Dalton
David Pag
Simon Darbon
Joshuay Brown
John Godfre
Thomas Marston
Joseph Dearbn
Daniel Sanborn
Widow Sarah Samborn
John Shaw
Jonathan Page
Richard Tayler
John Johnson
John Radman
Thomas Marston
Benj^a Roby

John Wedgwood
Edmund Chapman
Ebenezer Godfrie
Ruben Darbon
Job Chapman
William Palmer
John Darbn
John Marston
Joseph Chapman
Benj^a Thomas
Sam^a Darbon
William Godfree
Sam^l Marston
Sam^l Bachelder
Benimin Johnson
John Smith
Samuel Dearbon

Petition of the Inhabitants of Hampton Falls for a tavern license.

1732-3. To his Excellence Jonathan belcher Esq. Capt General and Commander in Chief in and over His Maj^{ties} province of New hampshire &c and to the Hon^{ble} the Counsell and House of Representatives convened in Gen^l Assembly.

The humble petition of us y^e Subscribers Inhabitants of Hampton falls parish most humbly sheweth,

That for three or four years Last past wee have had Sundry Divisions and parties made which has cosd much distraction and trouble amongst y^e people of this parish upon y^e account of y^e tavern. The hous formerly Bult by Col^l Peter Weare at y^e Corner where two streets met was Bult with Logs after y^e manner of a Garrison and on purpose for a publick hous of Entertainment for travelers &c and was veary sarvesable for y^e Security of Travelers and y^e Inhabitants in y^e troublesum time of war, upon y^e consideration of so good service to y^e publick y^e Generall Assembly of this province made it a Licenced Hous as wee have been Inform'd and it has been Improv^d for y^e use ever since, till about a twelve month since, and now By the consideration and order of his Maj^{ties} Gen^l Quarter sessions of y^e peace for s^t province held at Dover the fourth of Sept 1732 a Licence was Granted to another man whos hous is not so convenient and against y^e Desire of most of the Inhabitants of this parish the Selectmen of our parish Did at y^e sessions affore said approbate Mr Daniel Collins, y^e present owner of y^e old Hous y^e usually had ben the tavern who has substance by him and well supplid to keep y^e house with sutable nessasaries for entertaining Strangers and travellers and since he has had y^e s^t Hous he has Laid out Considerable upon it in altering and makeing new additions to make y^e Hous more convenient and fitt for such Bussness. Therefore wee your most humble petitioners most humbly prays that as y^e said House was a Licenced Hous formerly as By Liveing Evidence it can be proved that it was so and for That it will prevent making parties amongst us by Striveing every year which shall get y^e approbation, that the same Hous may again be made a Licenced House the person keeping it allwais giving Bonds from time to time for keeping Good orders and your petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Daniel Weare
Samuel Daves
Robert Quinoy
John French
Henry Lampre
Edward West
Joseph Cass Jr

Jonathan Fiñeld
Moses Black, Sen
Jon Chapman
John Stangan
Shadrick Warde
Jorge Conar
Isac Fales

Jerem^h Browne
 John Halle
 Tim^o Blake
 Henry Grene (?)
 Benj^t Moody
 Ralph Butler
 Enoch Sanburn
 John Gove Sen^r
 Winthrop Dow
 Joseph Worth
 Jacob Brown
 Ephraim Hoyt
 Nathan Hoyt
 Ephraim (?)
 Jeremiah Easman
 John Chase
 Joseph Nortin
 Ebenezer Dow
 Samuel Page
 Jonathan Chase
 John Philbrick
 Nathan Sanborn
 Jesreal Clifford
 John Clifford
 Benjamin Prescott
 Samuel Tilton
 John Cram Jr
 Joseph Pearkins
 John Ware
 Samuel Healey
 Nath^l Healey
 Jonathan Green
 Jonathan Bachelder
 Joseph Tilton
 John Cram
 Jonathan Cram Jr
 John Browen
 James Moulton
 Samuel Matshun
 John Matson
 Jacob Garland
 John Green
 Jacob Stanyan
 Thomas Gill
 Amos Cass
 Sam^l Emons
 Benjamin Green
 Jedjah Blake
 Nathan Clough
 Joseph Cass
 Jonathan Cass
 Sharon Blake
 Jon^s Philbrick
 Benj^t Pearkins
 Thomas Cram

William Thomson
 Ichabod Robie
 Jethro Tilton
 Jonathan Nason
 Jonathan Bachelder
 Samuell Lane
 Richard Sanborn
 James Sanburn
 Joseph Tilton
 Shurbun Tilton
 Josiah Tilton
 David Sanborn
 John Page
 Ebenezer Prescott
 Stephen Hobs
 Israel James
 Abrah^m Moulton
 Timothy Hucheson
 Joseph Wadleigh
 John Swain
 Philemon Blake
 Robert Row
 John Bachelder
 Wadley Cram
 Daniel Kelley (?)
 John Green Sen.
 Lenamin Cram
 William Evans
 Jonathan Tilton
 Jonathan Prescott
 Jonathan Row
 Thomas Leavit
 Elisha Prescott (?)
 Elisher Prescott Jr
 Benj Prescott
 Edward Tuck
 Sam^l Blake
 Nathaniell Prescott
 Joseph Draper
 Richard Nason
 Benjamin Sanbon
 James Prescott
 Jeremiah Green
 Jonathan Prescott
 Benj^t Sweet
 Benj. Hiland
 Tim^o Hiland
 Calub Browne
 Thos. Philbrick
 Jeremy Gove
 Jonathan Dow
 Jn^o Harvy
 John Gove, Jr
 Calub Swan

In Coun. Feb. 28th 1732-3.

Read and unanimously Voted to be dismissed.

R. Waldron Secy.

Petition for a new Parish.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq Governor and Commander in cheif in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England

And To the Honourable the Council for said province and to the Gentlemen of the house of representatives now sitting in Gen^l ass^m for said province,

The humble petition of the Inhabitants in that part of kingstown called the East part of kingstown and the west part of the inhabitants of the falls parish in Hampton

Humbly sheweth

That there being fifty familys & upwards within the precincts above named who having for a long time lived at a grate distance from any meeting house where the publick worship of God has been carryed on and most of us having great familys which very Rare above one or two of a family can go to the house of God y^e greater part of the time by reason of the great distance we live from any meeting house and thereby the greatest part of our familys have been deprived of the dispensation of y^e Gospel and there has been almost a famine of y^e word and worship of God amongst us thear being near four hundred souls whereof not above y^e sixth or seventh part can attend said worship which is very prejudicial to the Glory of God and destructive to our eternal wellfare for the Greatest part of us thus to be brought up in ignorance which is a greater Grief to us than we can herein express and y^e only cause of addressing your Excellency and the hon^{ble} Council & assembly herein and for preventing the difficultys and hardships which we have for a long time laboured under, and for the advancement of the glory of God and good of souls we the subscribers hereof humbly pray your excellency & y^e Honorable the council that we may be set of a particular district or precinct for the maintaining a Minister with the priviledges of carrying on the affairs of town or parrish according to the bounds hereafter expressed or as your Excellencie and the Honorble the council & house of Representatives shall in wisdom see fit the bounds of y^e precinct herein petitioned for we desire it may run two mile and a half on Almsbury line, westward into Kingston from y^e line y^e divides Hampton and Kingston & one mile and halfe on Exeter line and from y^e same dividing line to run Eastward by Almsbury & Salisbury line Eastward towards Hampton two miles, 1-2, and to carry that same breadth of two mile and a half to Hampton north line upon a north line parallel to the dividing line afores^d and if your Excellency & y^e hon^{ble} y^e council & house of Representatives in your wisdom shall see meet to grant your Petitioners so reasonable a request, we most humbly pray if possible it

may be so y^t we may be able to build a meeting house this summer and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

John Darling	Isaac Fellows
Joseph Greele	Ebenezer Collins
Joshua Prescott	Ebeneza Sleeper
Nathan Bachelder	Samuel Amons
Phinehas Bachelder	John Weare
Richard Clifford	Samuel Clifford
William Smith	Jonathan Palmer
Isick Gresen (?)	Benjamin Brown
Abraham Smith	John Graves
Benj ^r Swett	Josiah Bachelder
Daniel Darling	Ebenezer Bachelder
Edward Fifield	Joseph Shaw
Joseph Berry (?)	Gideon Shaw
Samuell Look	Philip Dow
Beniaman French	Edward Lock
Jonathan Dole	Ezekiel Dow
Jonathan Greely	Nathan Prescott
Ebenezer Fellows	Joshua Prescott Jr
Ichabod Clough	Josiah Tilton
Jeremy Webster	James Tapin
Isaac Godfrey	Ruben Currier
John Clifford	Henry Currier
Benjamin Morrill	Ezekiel Morrill
Jeremiah Prescott	Abner Morrill
Elihu Chase	Richard Fites

In the House of Representatives May 9th 1732

The within Petition Read & ordered that the Parrish of Hampton Falls & the town of Kingstown be served with a copy of this Petition, & ordered to appear the Second day of the next full sessions to shew reasons if any they have why the prayer of petition should not be granted. This to be at the charge of the Petitioners

James Jeffry cler. Assm.

In Council May 13th 1732

Read and Concurr'd

R. Waldron, Secry.

I assent to the above vote.

May 15: 1732.

J. BELCHER

In the House of representatives March 1st 1732-3

The within petition being read & the pleas and allegations on both sides being heard & considered tis Voted that the s^d petition be dismissed

George Walton, Clr. protem.

Concurrence in foregoing petition.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq & Gov^r & Comander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamps in New England & to the Honnourable Council & to the Gent^l of the House of Representatives now sitting in General Assembly for s^d Prov.

This is to Signifie to y^e Excellency & to the Hon^{ble} Council

& to the Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, That Whereas we the Subscribers of Hampton Living whithin y^e Limits or Bounds of this Petition for a Precinct or Parish out of Hampton & Kingstown, we are willing to Joyn with them & Desire to be Received & accepted as Petitioners with them and so we Rest with them in our Capacity his Majestys most dutiful Subjects & Humbly hoping for a Gracious answer to our Petition.

Hezekiah Blake
Rubea Smith
Nathaniel Derbun
James Perkins

Andrew Webster
{ Mary Longfellow Executrix to
{ Nathan Longfellow De^d
Jonathan Dow

Objections thereto.

At a Leagual Meeting of the freeholders of Hampton New parish held this 28th day of August 1732.

1st Nathaniel Weare Esq. Chosen Moderator for said meeting

3^d Left Ichabod Robie Chosen a Commite man to Appeare at the General Court to give in Reasons why the West part of the new parish in Hampton may not be set of to the East part of Kingstown to be a parish.

4th Capt Nathaniel Healys Chosen a Commite man for the Eand above said.

Hampton February the 22; 1732-3
A True Copie as attest

Joseph Tilton Clerk.

At a Lagull town meting held agust y^e 28 1732. 2th Voted that we wont not seet of the Est part of ouer town for a district or parish to Joyne with y^e West part of hampton and that there was not one voter appared for y^e sating them of att said meeting the Rason is Becase we are sensaball it will Rueine our town.

3th Captn Johathan Samborn and Mr Ebenezer Stevens are chosen to Represent y^e town at our Generall Cortt to give in our Rasins Why we did not grant the petitionars thare petition for to be sat of for a district or parish at y^e Est End of our Town.

A True Copy by

Mr John Swett Town Clerk.

Petition of Hampton Falls for a Fair.

To His Excelency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampsh^r and to the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Councel.

The Humble Petition of the Select men of the Parish of Hampton falls in said province Most Humbly sheweth

That whare as in this our Parish and in the Towns and Parishes Round about us, and to y^e East ward of our Province There are Raised a Bundance of Quick Stock which to geather

with other Traffick Twill in a year we want to sell, and having experienced Sumthing of benifet of a Time and place for Marketing s^d Stock and Traffick in our s^d Parish, which Benifett not ondy our Parish but also our Province togeather with y^e eastward Touns have shaired with us in by Reason of the Seathuation of our Parish being y^e most conveanient to accomodate Boath Provinces. We your Petitionours Therefore most Humbly pray

That his Excelency and y^e Hon^{ble} Councel order that y^e second Wednesday and Thursdays in May and y^e Third Wednesday and Thirsday in October to be days of Fair for Publick Traiding in this Parish att the now most noted Publick hous and Cuntory Road yearly and for ever. for the Benyfites above Expressed As in duty bound will ever pray.

JOSEPH TILTON	} Selectmen of y ^e parish of Hampton-Falls.
JONATHAN PRESCUTT	
JOSEPH WORTH	
ISRAEL BLAK	
BENJAMIN GREEN	

Hampton Falls Oct. 10th 1734.

Grant of a Fair to Hampton Falls, 1734.

George the 2^d by the Grace of God of Great Britain, [Prov. Seal] France and Ireland King Defend^r of y^e faith & To all to whom these presents shall come. Greeting—Know yee that we of our Especial Grace certain knowledge and meer motion for the due encouragment of Trade and Traffic within our Parish of Hampton Falls in our province of New Hamp^r in New England and for the more effectual carrying on of the same there—Have Given and Granted and do by these presents give and grant to the Inhabitants of our Said Parish & their successors the privilege of having holding & keeping two yearly Fairs in the s^d parrish forever. each to continue 2 day together & no more. The one To begin on the last Tuesday in April, and the other on y^e last Tuesday in October, Annually. To have and to hold the said Privilege of keeping Two yearly Fairs as above-said for the Ends and purposes above expressed to the said Inhabitants and their successors forever In Testimony whereof we have caused our Province seal to be hereunto affixed

Witness, Jonathan Belcher Esq. Our Gov^r & Com^r In Chief in and over our s^d Province the twenty fourth day of October in y^e 8th y^r of our reign, Anno^q Dom. 1734.

J. BELCHER.

By His Ex^{cy} Comand wth
the advice of y^e Coun.

R. Waldron, Secy

Agreement relating to Rev. Ward Cotton.

Hampton 1733-4.

Att a Legall meeting of the freeholders of Hampton this 12th day of March 1733-4.

S^y Wee the freeholders doe agree to settle Mr Ward Cotton he in the work of the ministry with the Rev^d Mr Gookins provided his proposals be such as we can comply with and that three men be chose as a committee to Treat with Mr Cotton and to know his proposalls and make Report to the Town at this meeting The comittee chosen are

Se^r CHRISTOPHER PAGE &SAM^l PALMER, Jr.

Capt JONATHAN MARSTON

Vera Copia as attest

Sam^l Dow Town Clerk.

Dissents.

Maj^r Wingett

Simon Marston

Morish Hobs

Sam^l Dearborn, Sen.

Johnn Wedgwood

Will Godfrey

Tho Marston

Tim Dalton

Daniel Samborn.

Petition adverse to setting off a new Parish.

To his Excelency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over His Maj^{ty} Provence of New Hampsher & and to y^e Hon^{ble} Counsell and Hous of Representatives convey^d in Generall Assambly.

The humble petition of us who are Inhabitants of y^e west part of Hampton Falls parish most humbly sheweth

That whare as thare is a petition preferred to y^e authority afore s^d by Sundry of y^e Inhabitants of y^e est part of y^e Town of Kingston and sundry of y^e Inhabitants of y^e west part of Hampton Fall parish to be set of a perticular District or present with preveledges and Limets as in s^d petition is Exprest

And we Inhabiting in that part of s^d Destrict petitioned for that Doos Belong to Hampton Falls parish do with submission Declare ourselves positively against s^d petitioners proceedings and conduct in that affair and that s^d petition was prefer^d without our knowledg or Desire and if s^d petition shold be granted we fere it will caus Devisions and parties amongst us on that acompt, which will be veary hurtfull both to church and Comunwelth, And there fore we His Maj^{ty} most Loial Subjects and your most humble suppliants mot humbly pray that your Excelency y^e Hon^{ble} Counsell and Gentlemen of y^e Hous of Representatives in your wisdom and easiness will not suffer us to be carried away by constraint but will see caus not to grant thair Request and wee your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

John Prescut
Robert Row

John Bachelder
Richard Samborn

Abraham Moulen ?
 Wadley Cram
 Jonathan Tilton
 Shurbun Tilton
 Daniel Kelley
 James Sanbun
 Steven Hobs
 Edmund James
 Simon Batchelder
 John Tilton
 James Prescut
 William Evens
 John Tappen
 Joseph Draper

Beniamen Cram
 Samuel Blake
 Jonathan Row
 James Fogg
 Ebenezer Prescut
 John Page
 Shadrach Ward
 David Samborn
 Timothy Huchison
 Israel James
 Phileon Blake
 John Cram
 John Mellsher
 Joseph Row

Reasons against the same.

Where as there is a petition Exebeted to his Exelency and the hon^{ble} Councell and house of Representatives in the Province of New hamsheir by Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Est part of Kings town and the west part of the Inhabitanse of the Falles parrish in Hampton to be sett of two miles and a halfe In to Kingstown and two miles and a halfe in to Hampton as it is set forth in the petition for a peteckluer district or precinct for the maintaining a minister with priveledges of caying one the affairs of a town or parrish and your Excelency y^e Hon^{ble} Councell and house of Representatives in your gratt wisdom Clemency & Justess ordered y^e y^e parrish of hampton falles and the town of King-town be sarved with a co^y of y^e petition and to appeare the second day of the next fallle session to Shue the Resons if thay have any why y^e prayer of petition should not be granted for which we the Inhabitants of Kingstown are Inxpresably thank full for your gratt wisdom prudence and Justess In this affaire and with your Leve give these following Reasons why y^e said petition should not be granted, firstly those of our town that are pettioners are all of them new comers to setell In our town and som of them young men and no famelyes and none or but one of them ware att any truble or charge with us In the Long and Tedus wars that we indured in this town with the heathen enemy nore in building our meeting house In Said town for above twenty yeares agoe.

2^{ly} The meeting house which thay have Raised Is so neare to the Sid of y^e district petitioned for that grate part of the ajasent inhabitanse which for a Long time have borne grate charges in y^e Wars and all other Charges In the plase and It is more defecult and worse for them to go to meeting there then where they now do.

3^{ly} Many of y^e pettioners are new comers from other plases to setell neare the Line sume call it between the Masetusets and new Hampshire and so as ocasion sarves them shift and shrink and bare no charge any where if they cane help it the Line being not yett determened.

4^{ly} Sume of the pettioners Lives In the Province of the Masetusets about Seven of them sume of them In Nebury and Sume of them att Salsbury and sume of them may heir the Salmes Sung at the meeting house in the houses where thay now live, and Sume others of the petitioners are amost as neare, If not quitt to a meeting house Thay have raised and have moved from Salsbury and Amsbury and other plases where the Gospell is plentifuly preached and good orders Kept and for them to say there is allmost a famine of y^e word of God amongst them Is very obsurd and Redekules.

5^{ly} And to us the Inhabitants of Kingston It is well known that we

have been att grat charg and werry much exposed in y^e war and since ben att grate troubell and defrence about owr minister and are Justly and Quietly setteled In a brave Christian and Loveing way with agood worthy minister and if these petitioners cane have their desire In thare petition will make agrate dele of trubell amongst us againe and Probabell all is Because thay will not be att a Litell charge with us In building a meeting house In said town In the senter of said town whereby we all may have Rome to Mett In Comonalty for to take of two miles and a halfe from owr town of Kingstown will take allmost halfe y^e Ratable Estate of our town and Sundry of our first Setlers with us and have carryed one with us In the ware and other charges that have arisen In y^e town so that If thare petition should be granted it will have a gratt tendency to Ruine the Pease Love unity among us. and Render us very incapable of supporting owr Reverend Minister as we ought to do as In duty we are bound to do, There fore we pray it may not be granted.

6^{ly} They say for preventing the defecelty and hard sheps thay for a Long time have Laboured under and for y^e advansment of y^e glory of God and the good of soules thay humbly pray which If they have Laboured under such defecoltres for a Long time it was and must be before they came heire whare they now Live for they have ben whare thay now live but a very litell time and for y^e gratest part of them as thay say to be brought up In Iyronces we hope and dout not but if thay will come to owr meetings and heire our minister they will grow wiser and pull down thare meeting house


All which Considered with else may be said we your most dutifull and obedent Servants dout not but your Excelency and y^e hon^{or} Counsell and Gentellmen of the house of Representatives In your gratt wisdom Clemency and Justes will see casue not to grant thare petition for which we shall ever Remain werry thankfull and shall ever pray.

JON^a SANBURN.

EBENEZER STAVENS.

Names of persons in different towns who petitioned to be annexed to Massachusetts—1739.

[See Prov. Pap., Vol. V., pp. 915-925.]

[ These names not repeated in the Index. ED.]

IN HAMPTON.

Nathl Seargent
Jabez Smith
Gershom Griffith
Henry Fiefield
James Johnson Jr
Darl Moulton
Wm Lock
Samll Leavitt
Joshua Brown
Thos Rand
Wm Staniford
Jacob Moulton
Charles Walker
Thom. Ward
James Johnson
John Hoeg

Nathl Drake
Philip Towl
Jno Sherburne
Edmund Rand
Samll Dalton
Jona Leavitt
Wm Gross
Thomas Lane
Benja James
Seth Fogg
Jabez James
Ward Cotton
Benja Lampre
Richd Sanborn
Caleb Towl
Ezekiel Moulton

Abner Sanborn
Isaac Libbe
Peter Garland
Thoms Bachelour
Joseph Moulton
Hampton, 42.

Thomas Brown
Jacob Brown
Nehemiah Hoba
Robert Drake
Shubel Sanborn Jr.

IN KINGSTOWN.

Joseph Seecomb
Simeon Brown
Jno Carter
Peter Tomson
Jos. Eastman
Theoph's Griffin
Orlando Bagley
James Wood
Jeremiah Currier
Thos Eastman
his
Theoph. X Clough
mark
Joseph Bean
Ralp. Blasdel Jr
Jno Silaway
Thomas Carter
his
Jno X Carter, Jr
mark
his
Moses X Blasdel
mark
Thomas Brown
Wm Whicher
Elipha. Griffin
Wm Stephens
Jno Griffin
Theos Griffin Jr
Danl Rowell
Samll Hunton
Enoch Blasdel
Wm Bagnel
Nathan Swett
Daniel Young
his
Benj. B. Wadly
mark
Benjamin Sawyer
Moses Nicholls
Ebenezer Stevens Jr
Joseph Sawyer
Samll Tucker
Joshua Woodman
Jeremiah Wheeler
Joseph Fellows
Joshua Webster
Jona Young

his
Jere X Quinby
mark
Ephraim Stephens
Benjamin Choate Jr.
Samll Webster
his
Samll X Bean
mark
Joseph Young Jr
his
Wm X Lovrin
mark
Jno Young
Samll Robey
Tristina Sanborn, Jr
Obediah Elkins
Aaron Young
Edward Scribner
Robert Stuart
Elisha Sweet
Jacob Peasley
Benjamin Eastman
his
Wm X Robey
mark
Ebenezer Webster
Philip Huntoon Jr
Jno Darling
Wm Boynton
Jachabod Clough
Phineas Bachelder
Ebenezer Sleeper
Nathan Bachelder
Isaac Godfrey
Jona Blasdel
Benja French
Samll Emons
Josiah Tilton
Ebenr Fellows
Ebenr Bachelder
Benja Clough
Ebenr Collins
Jacob Gale
Ebenr Blasdel
Jno March
Benja Stevens
his
Samll X Welch
mark

his
 David F Quimby
 mark
 Jno Sweet Jr
 Jno Huntton
 Danl Gilman
 Joseph Elkins
 Jona Choate
 James Bean
 Danl Darling
 Nathl Smith
 Stephen Gilman
 his
 Robert X Stockman
 mark
 Phillip Welch
 Henry Morrill
 Jeremiah Hubbard
 Richd Tande
 Wm Silloway
 Jabez Page
 Ephraim Elkins
 Jacob Flanders
 John Morgan
 Jona Stevens
 Jno Clark
 Saml Eastman
 Jno Hutton
 Joseph Bean Jr
 Paul Sanborn
 Jno Hubbard
 Thomas Elkins
 Jona French
 Stephen Flanders
 Wm Clifford
 Kingstown, 146.

Jona Sanborn ters
 Caleb Towl
 Dyer Hook
 Benjamin Sweet
 Nathl Huntton
 Timothy Eastman
 Daniel Bean
 Elisha Winsle
 Eben Esman
 Benja Sleeper
 Jno Thorn
 Jno Sleeper
 Daniel Moody
 Wm Long
 Ralph Blasdel
 Jacob Morrill
 Jona Blake
 Benja Silla
 Charles Hunt
 Abraham Smith
 Wm Smith
 Jonathan Greley
 James Tapin
 Benja Morrill
 Jno Prifield ters
 Stephen Merrill
 Philemon Wells
 Caleb Clough
 Isaac Griffin
 Elly Bede
 Saml Buswell
 Phillip Moody
 Jona Hobbs
 Benony Long
 Henry Bagly

IN HAMPTON FALLS.

Nathl Weare
 Charles Treadwell
 Benja Sanborn
 Benja Sanborn, Jr.
 Nath. Healey
 Ebenezer Shaw
 Nathan Tilton
 John Cram
 Samuel Lane
 John Brown
 Daniel Brown
 John Brown, Tertins
 Jacob Green
 Benja Prescott
 Jona Bachelder
 Reuben Sanborn
 Samuel Tilton
 Abraham Brown
 Jabez Smith
 Benj. Sweet

Johd Stanyan
 Thomas Leavitt
 Caleb Swain
 Samuel Prescott
 Philemon Blake
 Joshua Blake
 Abner Sanborn
 William Russel
 Jonathan Fifield
 Samuel Shaw
 Joshua Purinton
 Winthrop Dow
 Amoss Cass
 Enoch Gove
 John French
 Benjamin Dow
 Jonathan Hoag, Jr
 Ebenezer Blake
 Ephraim Hoyt
 Joseph Thrasher

Thomas Brown
 Jeremiah Pearson
 Moses Stickney
 Ebenezer Gove
 Nathan Green
 Daniel Swett
 Jeremiah Benet
 John Flood
 Jonathan Chase
 Thos Silla
 Archelas Lakeman, Jr
 John Flood, Jr
 Joseph Worth.
 John Worth
 Obadiah Worth
 Daniel Chase

Hampton Falls, 72.

John Calfe
 James Norres
 James Willson
 Francis Towl
 Moses Hills
 Samuel Emerson
 Enoch Colby
 Jonathan Blunt
 Stephen Webster
 Daniel MacFarland
 Ebenezer Dearborn
 Chester, 22.

John Clark
 Moses Thirston
 John Thirston
 David Staniford
 Saml Leavitt
 Miles Leavitt
 Nathan Taylor
 Richd Siakler
 Saml Leavit
 Abraham Stockbridge
 John Stockbridge
 Charles Rundlet
 Satchwell Clark
 John Rundlet
 James Robinson
 John Robinson
 Moses Leavit
 Edward Fildeld
 Ephraim Leavit
 Nathl Ambross
 Solomon Cotton
 Jonathan Chase
 Thomas Rallings
 Richd Calley
 Joseph Hoag

Jonathan Green
 Benjamin Green
 Jonathan Hoag
 Henry Drewe
 Job Haskell
 Stephen Palmer
 Philip Praverre
 Jeremiah Brown
 Ebenezer Knowlton
 Jno Knowlton
 Ralph Butler
 Nathl Burrell
 Nathan Cram
 Thomas Cram
 Meshech Weare
 Benja Hilyard.

IN CHESTER.

Ebenezer Flagg
 Ebenezer Blunt
 Benjamin Smith
 John Kezer
 James Vearnum
 Jonathan Hall
 John Hall
 Jonas Clay
 Ephraim Hasseltine
 Ebenezer Carlton
 Christopher Carlton

IN STRATHAM.

Joseph Merrill
 Benjamin Tayler
 Richd Young
 Matthew Tomson
 Joshua Kennison
 Owen Rannels
 Joseph Larrance
 Jonathan Fildeld
 John Veazey
 Nathl Paper
 Jonathan Sitley
 Caleb Rawlings
 Jonathan Chase Jr
 Joseph Hoyt Jr
 Joseph Edgerly
 John Purmott
 Richd Palmer
 James Chase
 William Calley
 Benja Hoag
 Enoch Merrill
 Abraham Morgan, Jr
 John Avery
 William Chase
 James Kennison

Ebenezer Folgham
Joseph Merrel
Samll Leavit, Jr
James Leavit
Benja Cotton
Theophilus Rundlet
Joseph Hoyt
Stratham, 63.

Moses Kennison
Joshua Neall
John Wadleigh
Joshua Kallings
Thomas Calley
Dudley Leavit

IN EXETER.

Daniel Gilman
Jona Norres
John Burgin
Robert Light
Trueworthy Gilman
Peter Gilman
Benja Thing
Nathl Webster
Daniel Gael
Jona Gilman
Simon Gilman
Josiah Gilman
James Leavit Jr
Samll Thing
Israel Gilman
John Kimbal
Andrew Gilman
John Light
Jacob Tilton
Samll Gilman
Nicholas Gilman
John Gilman
John Lord
John Odlin
Thomas Deane
Edward Hall
Moses Gilman
Nathl Bartlett
Thomas Lord
John Gilman 4th
John Leavit
Joseph Thing
John Marsh
Daniel Thing
Philip Connor
his
Jona JJ Gliden
mark
his
Jona X Foulson
mark
Jona Foulson
Abraham Foulson
James Gordon
his
Eph & Foulson
mark

his
Thos X. Gording
mark
Benjamin Fildeld
his
Benj. B. Judkins
mark
Joseph Thing, Jr
Peter Thing
Jeremiah Gilman, Jr
Edward Gilman
Darbey Kelly
Abner Collin
Job Judkins
his
Benj. X Foulson
mark
his
Nicholas X Gorden, Jr
mark
John Quimby
James Gilman
Dudley Odlin
Ezekl Gilman
Nathl Bartlett, Jr
Joseph Scribner
Joshua Gilman
Abner Thirston
Peter Foulson
John Haines
Samll Connor
Daniel Thurston
Benja Couner
Nathaniel Gorden Hardy or
Benja Rollins, Jr
Stephen Gilman
Nathl Thing
John Foulson, Jr
Saml Stevens, Jr
Jethro
John Gorden, Jr
James Leavit
Ebenezer Light
Moses Swett
Samll Elkins, Jr
Jona Wadleigh
Dudley Leavit

Benja Smith
 Jeremiah Calfe
 Jerema Calfe Jr
 Saml Edgerly
 Daniel Calfe
 James Calfe
 Benjamin Mead
 Thomas Wilson
 James Bean
 Joshua Wilson
 Nathl Ladd
 Jabez Sanborn
 Thomas Edgerly
 Daniel Folsom
 John Bowden
 John Hutchinson
 Ephraim Robinson
 John Dudley
 Edw. Colcord
 Richard Preson
 Daniel Elkins
 Jeremiah Veasey
 Jona Gilman, Jr
 James Folsom
 William Doran
 Elias Ladd
 Coffin Thing
 Abraham Folsom
 Edward Thing
 Jonathan Thing
 William Lamson
 Saml Lamson
 Daniel Young
 Joseph Gordon
 Daniel Homan
 Jeremiah Conner
 John Louze
 John Gilman
 John Gilman
 Humphrey Wilson
 John Rice
 Thomas Lyford
 Cornelius Conner
 Samuel Dollof
 Saml Stevens
 Amos Dollof
 Theophilus Hardy, Jr
 his
 Edward O. Stevens
 mark
 Ephm Philbrok
 his
 Jona X Dollof
 mark
 Henry Marshall
 Biley Hardy
 Kinsley James

Francis James
 Charles Rundlet
 Peter Folsom
 Ben. Swain
 John Baird
 John George
 Thomas Webster, Jr
 Thomas Kimming
 James Whidden
 Nicholas Gordon
 Henry Steel
 his
 Danl O Giles Jr
 mark
 Thomas Robinson
 Nathl Folsom
 Jno Smith
 his
 Ebenezer X Martin
 mark
 Davison Dudley
 Francis Bracket
 John Roberts
 his
 Alex X Roberts
 mark
 Jonathan Young
 Michael Bowden
 Nicho Gilman, Jr
 Nehemiah Gilman
 John Steel
 Joseph Graves
 his
 Edward X West
 mark
 Edward Scribner
 John Scribaer
 William Graves
 Geo. Roberts
 Stephn Loal
 Timothy Gordon
 Job Kennison
 Joseph Louncan
 John Lovera
 Joseph Giles
 Ebenezer Colcord
 Elijah Vickery
 Nathan Taylor
 James Dudley, Jr
 Jonathan Smith, Jr
 Daniel Lary
 James Young
 Benj. Scribner
 Daniel Giles
 Samuel Dudley, Jr
 Israel Smith
 John Giles

Saml Young
 James Dudley
 John Brown
 Josiah Moody
 Zechariah Judkins
 William Smith
 Israel Smith
 Daniel Gorden
 John Roberts Jr
 Nicholas Dollof
 his
 Joseph Z Atkinson
 mark
 James Robinson
 Nicholas Dudley
 Timothy Leavit
 Stephen Leavit
 Saroll Smith Cooper
 Samuel Roberts
 Sealey Leavit
 Benja Gilman
 Daniel Warmall
 Nicholis Dudley, Jr
 Waley Stevens
 Josiah Thing
 Carter Gilman
 his
 Joseph X Taylor
 mark
 John Farrar
 Jonathan Dudley
 Samuel Dudley
 John Odlin, Jr
 Philip Wadleigh
 George Creston
 Robert Young
 Samuel Magoon
 Benany Gorden
 William Graves, Jr
 Edward Ladd
 John Lufkin
 James Gorden, Jr
 Exeter, 262.

Nathl Prescut
 Jona Prescut
 Joseph Wadleigh
 Saml Blake
 Israel James
 Jeremiah Batchelder
 Richard Samborn
 Stephen Hobes
 Edward Smith
 Ebenezer Huchens
 John Green
 Ebenezer Knoulton
 Jona Brown
 Samll Page
 Kensington, 27.

Israel Young
 Samll Dudley, Jr
 Clement Moody
 Jeremiah Bcean
 Samll Richardson
 Jonathan Gorden
 Joseph Leavit
 David Smith
 Ambros Hindes
 James Norris
 Daniel Lad
 Josiah Lad
 Caleb Gilman, Jr
 Richard Dollof, Jr
 John Leavit, Jr
 Curtis Bean
 David Dollof
 Daniel Lary
 Elisha Odlin
 Peter Coffin
 John Gorden
 Nicholas Perryman
 Theophilus Hardy
 Jonathan Conner
 John Canby
 Stephen Lyford
 Benjamin Dollof
 Jona Gilman, ters
 Moses Conner
 Nathl Gilman
 Trueworthy Dudley
 Jeremiah Bean
 John Foulson ters
 Robert Patten
 Jacob Smith
 Jona Smith, Jr
 Samll Smith
 Samuel Lary
 John Norris
 Dudley James
 Francis James

IN KENSINGTON.

Benja Brown
 Henry Lampre
 Jeremiah Green
 George Conner
 John Cram
 William Evens
 Abner Evens
 Abraham Moulton
 David —
 Benjamin Jarvis
 John Prescut
 Benjamin Page
 Timothy Huchens

IN GREENLAND.

Samll Weeks	Wm Sympson
Joshua Weeks	Samll Bryon
Benja Macris	Jno Lang
Samll Chapman	Jedediah Weeks
Pennel Chapman	David Dearborn
Ebenr Johnson	Jno Weeks
Matthias Hains	Walter Weeks
Lewis Hains	Mathias Weeks
James Johnson	Benja Kennison
Samll Davis	Joha Weeks
Jno Weeks, Jr	James Cate
Ebenr Johnson, Jr	Enoch Clark
Saml Weeks, Jr	Bracket Johnson
Joseph Hill	Samll Hiex (?)
John Johnson	Henry Clark
George Kennison	Elias Philbrook
his	Benja Philbrook
Joseph X Melon	Joseph Grant
mark	Jona Weeks
Joseph Weeks	Henry Clark, Jr
Samll King	John Johnson
Joshua Macres	Elisha Bryon
Robert Bryon, Jr	Nathl Huggin
Jona Dockum, Jr	Danll Allin Jr
Jno Dockum	Nathan Johnson, Jr
Robert Bryon	Joseph Meloon, Jr
Jno Watson	Leonard Weeks
Tucker Cate	Wm Wallis
Jno Rawlings	
Total, 55.	

Hampton,	42
Kingston,	146
Hampton Falls,	72
Chester,	22
Stratham,	63
Exeter,	262
Kensington,	27
Greenland,	55
Total,	689

Reasons offered against a new district.

Where as there is a Petition Exhibited to his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties provinc of New Hampsher in New England and to y^e Hon^{ble} Counsell and Gentelmen of y^e Hous of Representatives for s^d province By Sundry of y^e Inhabitants of y^e Est part of y^e Town of Kingstown and Sundry of y^e Inhabitants of y^e West part of Hampton Falls parish to be set of a perticular Destrict or precenct with Preveliges and Limets as in s^d petition is exprest. and your excellency y^e Hon^{ble} Counsell and Gentleman of y^e Hous of Representatives in your grate wisdom Justes and Clemency has ordred y^t y^e parish of Hampton Falls and y^e town of Kingstown shold be sarv'd with a copy of s^d petition and to

appear y^e second Day of y^e next Fall session to shew Reasons if any they have why y^e prayer of s^d petition shold not be granted for which we of s^d Hampton Falls are veary thankfull for your grate wisdom prudence and Justes in that affair. and we under written deligates for s^d Hampton Falls parish Leaveing our Neiburs at Kingston to spake for themselves shall with submission give y^e following Reasons why y^e prayer of s^d petition shold not be granted:

1^{stly}—Becaus y^t there is but about twelve of y^e petitioners y^t belongs to our parrish and sum of them youngmen and has no Fammilies and sum Dwelt in the other parish in Hampton when s^d petition was prefered and not above three or four families y^t we know of y^t has Long Dwelt in y^t part of our parish and for y^t Reason cold not be for a Long time under Defeculties & Deprived of y^e Despensation of y^e Gospell and be in such a famishing condition as they say they have ben in.

2^{thly} Becaus Considering y^e Grateness of y^e number of y^e Inhabitants y^t Dwels in y^t part of our parish petitioned for y^t has not petitioned which we suppose to be about thirty and sum of them has dwelt Longer in y^t part of s^d parish than any of s^d petitioners has and has larger families who are uterly avearce to s^d petitioners proceedings and Conduct in y^t affair and for such a considerable number of our Inhabitants as afore s^d to be carried away against their wills we humbly conseave to be a Intolerable hard ship and will Rather have a tendency to caus Devisions and anamoities then to advance y^e Glory of God, &c.

3^{ly} Said petitioners Desirs y^t their Request may be Granted for y^e Reasonableness of it—But for such a miner part as a fore said to Endeavour to Cary of such a Large tract of Land from our parish as Exprest in s^d petition, which is all most half our parish and y^e Inhabitants with it against their wills we humbly conseave to be veary unreasonable and absurd—And for these Reasons and many others y^t might be given we Doubt not but your Excelency the Hon^l Councell and Gentlemen of y^e House of Representatives in your grate wisdom Justes and Clemency will se Reason sufficient not to grant s^d petitioners thair Request for which we of Hampton Falls shall Ever Remain veary thankfull.

NATH^l HEALEY
ICHABOD ROBIE.

Remonstrance against a new district.

We the subscribers His Majestys most duty full & Loyall subjects dwelling within y^t district or precinct petitioned for In y^e East part of Kingstown & y^e west part of Hampton—Do with Humble submission declare ourselves positively against the thing as wrong & very hurtfull to Church and common wealth supposing it to be hatched up by two or three disaffected persons without our knowledge and consent & Humbly pray it may not be granted.

Shadrach Ward
Benignan Bachelder
Simon Batchelder
John Prescut
Robrd Row
Nathaniel Prescut
John Bachelder
Richard Sanborn
Beniaman Cram
Wadley Cream
Danel Kely

Jonathan Tilton
Israel James
Joseph Draper
James Fogg
John Page
Timothy Huchsien
Edmund James
Ebenezer Prescut
Jonathan Rowe
William Cleves (?)
James Prescut

Philemon Blake
 Abraham Moulton
 James Sanbun
 David Sambun
 Shurbun Tilton
 John Tilton
 Stephn Hobbs
 Tristram Sanborn
 Nathanel French
 Joseph Eastman
 William Taylor
 Jeremiah Quinbe
 John Webster
 Andrew Webster
 Tho. Griffin
 Moses Sleper
 Eben Easman
 Samuel French

Theofeolos Grifen
 Thomas Easman
 Dan^{ll} Rowell
 Moses Roueli
 Ralfe Blasell
 Thom^s George
 Dan^{ll} Blasdell
 Jona. Blasdell
 Theo Griffen Jr.
 John Carter
 Peter Sanborn
 Ben^{ma} Magon
 Nath^l Smyeth
 Ele Beede
 Philip Mødey
 Joseph Louern
 Sam^{li} Been, Jr
 John Sleepr

Petition of persons formerly of Massachusetts to be annexed to Hampton Falls.

To his Excelency Bening Wintworth Esq. Governor and Commander in cheif In and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Honorable the Counsel now setting in said Province.

The Humble address and Petition of His Majesties Legal and deutfull Subjects whose names are hereunto Subscribed which did belong to the Esterly part of Salisbury but now by the Settlement of the Province Lines Fall into New Hampshire most Humbly shieweth that your petitioners are Informed that those which did belong to the westerly Part of Salisbury and some of Almsbery which by said Line falls into New Hampshire Intends to Petition that all those Persons that did belong to Salisbury and Almsbery & are now taken Into New Hampshire might be made in to a twown ship or Parish by themselves & not annexed to any other, and have Presumed so far as to set up a frame for A Meeting House in the West-erly Part which if it should be granted would be very Prege-dital to your Petitioners who live most of us above six miles from said meeting house so y' those of us that frequent y' way of Worship Could not attend the worship of God with our wives and families as we out to doo and for all other affairs belonging to a town or Parish of all things that are notified at said meeting house we shall have no knowledge of them which may be greatly to our Damage and a great Difficulty & Trouble to select men and Constables and all such affocirs.

We Therefore Humbly Pray that we may not be joyned to them but may be Annexed to Hampton Falls or some other

way as in your wisdom you may think meet and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray.

Sam^l Eaton
Joseph Page
Jabez Eaton
Jacob French
Ephraim Eaton
John True
Benjamin Baker
John Paige
Joseph Tucker
Richard Smith
Joseph Todd
Thomas Selly
David Fowler
Trustim Collins

Samuell Fowler
Samuel Walton
Jeremiah Wheeler
Benjamin Hoyt
James Jackman
Elihu Dow
John Eaton
Noah Dow
Benjamin Collins
Bildad Dow
Judah Dow
Benony Selley
Samuell Selly
John Eaton, Jr

Petition of inhabitants of N. E. part of Hampton to be exempted from minister's tax.

To His Excellency Bennin Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief In and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Hounorable the Councel and house of Representatives of said Province In General Assembly Convened—November y^r 16th 1742

The Humble petition of us the Subscribers Most Humbly sheweth—that the houses and habitations of your petitioners are in the north eastly part of the town of Hampton at or near Littel Bores Head near Lettel River or near the Sea and that we live most as near upon a Line to the meeting house at the town as to that at North hill and that it is much easier for us to go to meeting at the town than to North Hill by reason of the Goodness of the way to the town and there not being any way for us to go to meeting at north hill nor ever like to be unless we travil much farther than to go to the meeting house at the town :

Your petitioners Humbly pray that your Excellency and Honours would be pleased to take this petition into consideration and in your grate Goodness exempt us from paying to the support of the ministry at North hill and that we may still remain—and be taxed to the support of the ministry and the other Publick charges of the town as we used to be and your pititioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

John Batchelder
Thomas Hains
Jeremiah Page

Mosies Lampre
Obadiah Marston
Stephen Brown.

In the House of Representatives 9^{br}, 25th 1742

The within Petition Read and considered & voted to be Dismissed
James Jeffry Clr. Assm

*Petition of sundry persons to be annexed to Hampton Falls
or other towns.*

To his Excellency the Governor of New Hampshire &c

May it please your Excellency: we namely John Paige, Benjamin Baker, John True & Jacob French are in that Petition Prefer'd by those in the East Parte of that slip &c, and we Desire we may be anext to Hampton Falls We our hairs and estats; and we

Benjamin Brown
Caleb Clough
Amos Paige
Nathaniel Maxfield
Abraham Brown

Epharaim Brown, Jr
Benjamin Brown, Jr.
Samuel French
Jonathan Brown
Samuel Brown jr

desire to be annexed to Kingsinto"—we our Hairs and Estates.

Feb. y^e 18th 1741.

Jacob French	}	East part for Hampton Falls
John True		
Jonathan Hoit		
Benj ^a Baker		
Joseph Tucker		
John Page		

John Page	}	in the petition for the East part at Hampton Falls.
Benj ^a Baker		
Sam True		
Jacob French		

Jonathan Kimball
Jonathan Watson
Jonathan Farran
Timothy Farran
David Gooden
Samuel Gooden
Phillip Chaloss
Benjamin Kimball
Caleb Hobbs
Roger Estman
William Sargent
Nathaniel Ash
George Marten
Robert Marten
Abraham Morrill
David Marten
Every Tooker
Orlando Bagly
David Bagly

Andrew Whittier
Timothy Whitter
Josiah Fowler
Thomas Fowler
David Elott
Thomas Carter
John Carter, ter^o
Will^a Fowler
Thomas Carter
William Fowler
William Fowler jr
John Carter Jr
Joseph Fowler
John Carter
Jacob Carter
Samuel Carter

We desire to be anext to Kingstown

(within the petition)

Benj Kimball
Caleb Hobbs
Roger Eestman
Phil Chaliss
Sam^l Gooding

Jon^a Farran
Nath^l Ash
David Gooding
Jon^a Kimball—9.

Petition of persons in Haverhill district not to be joined with Kingstown.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wintworth Esq.
New Hampshire } Governor and Commander in Cheif In
and over his Majisties Province of New
Hampshire In New England and To the honorable his
Majesties Councils of said province

The petition of Jeremiah Eaton, John Kezar and others—
The Subscribers who live In Haverhill District and on the
Norwest side of the Washpond brook.

Humbly sheweth :

That sometime agoe your petitioners together with others to
agreat number of Haverhill district and some of Amsbery
Humbly requested your Excellency and honors to Incorporate
them into a town ship according to the meets and bounds de-
fined in the petition

And your Exelency and honours so far Incouraged us as to
send a committee to view our situation and circumstances who
accordingly haveing attended that Service made their report,
But it so hapned that when our committee waited upon your
Exelency and honours Expecting to receive a charter of In-
corporation acording to the return of said Committee the
sudden news of a french fleet on the coasts so alarmed the
Government that your Exelency and honers were obliged to
imply all your thoughts and powers for the defence of the
province and Lay aside that afair with all other Business to a
further day—That as we are informed the town of Kingstown
who have been of late indeavering to Extirpate us from the
Earth did on the 26th of September last set us of together with
some few others who call themselves Kingstown men into a
parish,

Thereby further indeavouring to vex grieve hurt and Iniure
us who had many of us much rather be lead into Captivity By
some Christian nation than be Joynd with them who are our
Greatest adversaries under a pretence that wee are part of
Kingston when in fact wee and our anchestors have possed
our lands as part of Haverhill for more than one hundred
years past. and since the settlement of the line have allways
been accounted Haverhill district men and paid rates accord-
ingly.

Wee therefore humbly and earnestly request your Exelency
and Honers to compasenate our Surcumstances and not suffer
us to be rent and torn to peices by our inveterate Kingston
adversaries but will aford us releif by Joyning us with our
Dear Christian friends relations and neibeurs of haverhill Des-
trict according to our petition with them & as soon as may be
Incorporated Into a township—That so wee may have the

Gospel settled amongst us and for your Exelency and honours
your humble petitioners as In duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Haverhill Destrict October 13th 1746.

David Heath	Joseph Stevens
William Heath	Michael Johnson
Joseph Stevens, Jr	Tho. Stevens
Jeremiah Eatton	William Easman
John Kezar	Daniel Robands
Samuel Stevens	John Mills
David Stevens	Daniel Johnson
Benjamin Stevens	John Atwood
John Stevens	Zachariah Johnson
Nehemiah Stevens	Joseph Little
Wait Stevens	John Chute
Stephens Johnson, Jun ^r	Daniel Little
John Muzzey	Thomas Mills
John Hunkins	Phillip M Carrygon
John Johnson	Beniamin Philbrick
William Hancock	James Mills.

Notification of a Parish meeting to set off those who call themselves Presbyterians.

Province of) These are to notify the Freeholders and Inhabi-
New Hamps) tants of the Parish of Hampton falls in said Province
who are by Law Qualified for to Vote to meet at this
meeting house on the 2^d day of Sept next at one of the clock in the
afternoon for the following Purpose viz:—Whereas a Number of Per-
sons in said Parish have Lately Professed themselves of the Presbye-
terian Perswasion, and have apply'd to some ministers at Londonderry
whom they call the Boston Presbytery Desiring to be under their care
Representing that they apprehend themselves able and are freely will-
ing to maintain a minister of the orthodox faith and that is united
with said ministers in the Presbyterian Government and have made
some objections to paying towards the support of the settled minister
in said Parish—And altho there is no Just Reason that the above men-
tioned Persons should in any Respect be excused except that it may
Probably be most for the peace of said parish that the abovementioned
Persons and their estates should be set off to act in all Respects as a
Distinct Society or Parish by themselves, except paying their Propor-
tion of the Province tax untill a new Proportion thereof—Therefore
to see if the Parish will vote to set off the abovementioned Persons
and their estates to be Incorporated if they think Proper to apply for
it to act in all respects by themselves as a Distinct Society or Parish
Except Paying their Proportion of the Province tax untill a new Pro-
portion thereof, and to pay all other charges as usual untill they shall
be set off as above mentioned—The Line of said New Parish to be
fixed by a committee of the General Court with Liberty for such of
the above mentioned Persons as shall not fall within said New Parish
to Poll off with their estates and belong thereto, And for any who shall
fall within said New Parish who are not of the Presbyterian Perswa-
sion to Poll off with their Estates and belong to the old Parish and
for any who are not of the Presbyterian Perswasion who have or shall
have Lands within said New Parish to Poll off said Lands to belong to
the old Parish.

At a Leagal meeting of the Freeholders and inhabitants of the Parish of Hampton falls held the Second day of Sep^r 1765—Col Meshech Weare choosen Moderator for said Meeting

Voted That the people caled Presbyterians in this parish be set off as a Distinct Parish by them selves according to the foregoing Notification for the above meeting.

Hampton Falls December 31st 1765

Copy attested by Caleb Sanborn,
Parish Clerk.

Petition for a Presbyterian Society.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor and Commander in Cheif in and over his majesties Province of New Hampshire &c—To the Honorable his Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province Convened in General Assembly—November 21st, 1765. .

The petition of the subscribers, Free holders & Inhabitants of the Town of Hampton Falls in said Province—Humbly Sheweth.

That about Two years ago The Rev Mr Pain Wingate in the congregational way & manner was settled in the work of the ministry in said Town. That the Religious sentiments of and Doctrines preached by the said Rev Mr Wingate are very different from those of your Petitioners—and disagreeable to them—That your Petitioners apprehended they could not be profited by the peaching and ministration of the s^d Rev^d Mr Wingate That the measures taken by the said Town in order to the settlement & support of the said Mr Wingate are as your Petitioners conceive unprecedented and Justly Grievous to them. and that therefore your Petitioners and many others Inhabitants of said Town (near one half thereof) constantly opposed his settlement there and dissented therefrom:

That your Petitioners are conscientiously of the Presbyterian Perswasion respecting Church Government, Doctrine Discipline and Worship That they with others of their Brethren of that Perswasion have for sometime past been regularly formed into a church, built a meeting house in said Town for the publick Worship of God. Called and settled a minister in the Presbyterian way, namely The Rev Mr Samuel Perley: That your Petitioners conscientiously and constantly on the Lords days and at other times occasionally attend the publick worship of God there. according to their said Perswasion; That the premises notwithstanding the select men of the said Town of Hampton Falls for the last year assesed and Rated your Petitioners for the support of the said Mr Wingate and

obliged them to pay the same, That the selectmen of said Town for the present year have again assessed & Rated your Petitioners for the same purpose, which your Petitioners apprehend to be a Grievous & unreasonable Burthen upon them—Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray your Excellency and Honours to take their case under your wise consideration And as they conceive themselves to be Intitled to his majesties Grace & Favour in allowing to all his subjects Liberty of Conscience—and that it is unreasonable for them to be compelled to pay towards the support of a minister they do not nor cannot hear and attend upon for the Reasons aforesaid When at the same time they are at the expence of maintaining publick worship among themselves in that way and mode they think most agreeable and nearest to the directions given in the Scriptures by the Great head of the Church, and where the True Doctrines of Grace & Salvation are preached according to their Opinion of those things: They pray your Excellency & Honours would grant them Relief in the premises by Exonerating them their Families and Estates and all others within said Town of Hampton Falls who are of the same Perswasion and attend the publick worship of God with them from all ministerial Rates and Taxes in said Town (Excepting to their own minister) and by setting them off as a distinct Parish for ministerial affairs only, and by enabling the said Presbyterian congregation to raise & Levy on themselves such Taxes and assessments as they shall from time to time find necessary for the support of the ministry and publick worship of God among themselves—or grant your Petitioners such other Relief as your Excellency and Honours in your wisdom shall see fit, And your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c. &c.

Thomas Leavitt
Ebenezer Knowlton
Richard Smith
Jacob Smith
Winthrop Gove
John Chase Jr
John True
Abener True
Joshua Page
Joseph Page
Abel Page
Thomas True
Joshua Page, Jr
Benjamin Eaton
John Eaton
Thomas Eaton
Wimon Eaton
Joseph Norton
Joseph Eaton
John Selley

Samuel Selley
David Eaton
Samuel Eaton
Nath Sinkler
David Knoulton
Eliphe Merrill
Thomas Brown
Nathan Gove
Enoch Gove
Sam Philbrick
Jonathan Swett
William French
Jacob French
Jonathan Weare
Isaac Brown
John Kenney
Elisha Brown
Jonathan Walton
Job Haskell
Enoch Boid

Samuel Felch
Joseph Falch
Henry Roby
John Chas
Abel Daves
Simon Clough
John Robei
John Hunt

Daniel Chase
Thomas Selly
John Eaton, Jr
Jonathan Hoyt
Elezer Gove
Paul Grinelf
Jonathan Chase, Jr
Benjamin Leavit

Province of New Hamp^r November 27th 1765

The foregoing Petition read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

T. Atkinson, Jr Secry

Province of } In the house of Representatives Nov^r 27th 1765.
New Hamp^r }

The annexed Petition being Read and considered.

Voted, That the Petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the first day of January next, and that the Petitioners at their own cost serve the selectmen of Hampton falls with a copy of the Petition and order of Court that they may appear and shew cause if any they have why the Prayer thereof should not be granted.

M Weare, Clr.

In Council Nov 28th 1765

Read & concurr'd.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of } In the House of Representatives July 2^d 1766.
New Hamp^r }

The foregoing Petition being taken under Consideration and the Parties heard thereon:

Voted, That the Petitioners have liberty to Bring in a Bill for them and their Estates to be set off from the Parish of Hampton falls to act in all Respects as a distinct Society or Parish by themselves Except paying their Proportion of the Province tax untill a new Proportion thereof. The line of said New Parish to be fixed by a committee of the General Court with liberty for such of the Petitioners as shall not fall within said new Parish to Poll off with their Estates and Belong thereto and for any who shall fall within said new Parish who are not of the Presbyterian Perswasion to Poll off with their Estates and belong to the old Parish. and for any who are not of the Presbyterian Perswasion who have or shall have Lands within said New Parish to Poll off said lands to belong to the old Parish agreeable to the Purport of a Vote of the Parish of Hampton falls the Second day of Sep^r 1765.

M. Weare, Clr.

Province of } In the House of Representatives July 9th 1766.
New Hamp^s }

Upon a motion of the Petitioners for some alteration in the foregoing vote

Voted, That it be understood that any non Residents who have or shall have Lands in either Parish shall have liberty to Poll off their said Land to that Parish which they shall choose.

M. Weare. Clr.

In Council Eod^{na} Die

Read & Concurr'd.

T Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Petition in answer to the foregoing Petition.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governour and Commander in Chief In and Over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire. The Honour^e his Majestys Councill and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

Jany 1st 1766.

We the Subscribers, Chosen by the Parish of Hampton falls a Committee on their behalf, to make answer to a Petition Exhibited to the General Assembly Nov^r 21st 1765 By a Number of Freeholders and Inhabitants of s^d Parish Praying to be Excused from Paying to the Support of the Rev^d Mr Paine Wingate Setled in the work of the ministry in said Parish &c.

Beg Leave Humbly to Represent to your Excellency and Honors That the Reasons assigned by said Petitioners are such as ought by no means to Prevail for their being Exempted in the manner They pray for. And this we trust will clearly appear from a true state of facts Relative to these affairs

We would therefore Inform your Excellency & Honors That Mr Wingate Having Preached in the Parish for some months before Mr Baileys Death and Afterwards to the General Satisfaction of the People The Parish with the Advise of the Neighboring ministers Proceeded to give him a call to Settle in the work of the ministry there, which call was unanimous by the Church, and General by the Parish, not more than three or four Persons opposing his Settlement. But the terms of Settlement not being agreed on he gave a Negative answer After which the Parish heard some others on Probation and gave Mr Micah Lawrence a call to settle, which we mention because it has been Represented as if the Parish were unreasonably set for Mr Wingate's settlement and no other person. But the same persons who opposed Mr Wingate's settlement opposed the settlement of Mr Lawrence: which made the Generality of People think their opposition was more from a disposition to make Difficulty in the Parish than from any Reasonable objection they had against Either of the Persons. But Mr. Lawrence also gave a Negative answer on account of terms of settlement. Whereupon the People in General Signified their Desire to Renew their Call to Mr Wingate, and agreed to get him to Preach for four Sabbaths, if he could be Procured. It is true this was opposed by those who had all along opposed his settlement, but this was then but three or four Persons Mr Wingate was accordingly Procured for four Sabbaths: after which a meeting was called. Notice being up two Sabbaths as usual, to see if the Parish would Renew their Call to Mr Wingate to settle which we mention, because it has been Rep-

resented as if there had been some unfair Proceedings as to this meeting, tho' in what Particulars we could never find. At this meeting there was again a general Vote of the Parish to Renew their call to Mr Wingate, not more than six or seven Voting against it, and he had also again a unanimous Vote of the Church at the Same meeting also were voted terms of settlement which being five Pounds Sterling more than had been Voted before there were more Persons against the terms of settlement than against the call, tho' we think not more than ten or twelve at that time. But after wards many of these Petitioners spoke of it as an Extravagant sum (the sum is 55 £ Sterling in the whole besides the Personage) and made this the Ground of uneasiness, and of stirring up Persons against Mr Wingates Settlement Representing that it was too much for such a Poor Parish to Pay, and if that were taken off they would be Easy; this was their General talk and the whole Ground of complaint then made. With what Propriety they Desire to take off (as they say) near one half and to maintain another minister when but a year or two ago the whole Parish were not able to pay fifty five pounds Sterling yearly, we must leave to themselves to Explain. The truth is the whole Parish is not more than sufficient to support one minister Properly, Tho' we think there was no Reason to find fault with what was Voted Mr Wingate: Thus matters Rested for some time and it was Generally tho't that the uneasiness which had arose on account of the Salary would subside. But sometime after some of those Persons who had all along opposed our Settlement went about, and in a very Private manner Procured a Number of Persons to Sign a Paper to Signify to Mr. Wingate that there was a great Number of Persons in the Parish against his settlement, in order to Discourage him from accepting, which being accidentally heard of by one or two Persons who were for Mr Wingates settlement, and of the time when they Designed to carry the same to Mr Wingate it was tho't Proper that some Persons should go and meet them at Mr. Wingates to Know what Objections there were, and Endeavor to clear up any Difficulties that might be made, accordingly three or four Persons went and met the Persons who had been Procuring Signers, and informing them of what they heard Desired to Know who were uneasy and what their Objections were, that they might clear up the Matters if they could. But they Reply'd that what they had to Say was to Mr Wingate they had nothing to say to any Body Else, and after the other Persons were with drawn they Delivered a Paper to Mr Wingate Signed by a considerable Number of Persons Signifying that they were against his settling, without assigning the Least Reason, and when they were asked the Reasons Declined giv-

ing any which not appearing to Mr Wingate (after Enquiring into all circumstances) to have Equal weight with the unanimous Vote of the Church and Clear Vote of the Parish at a Legal meeting he accepted of the call. After this another Paper was carried about to be signed to Request the selectmen to call a meeting "to see if the freeholders Inhabitants of Hampton falls will Vote that all the Votes has been Past Relating to Mr Wingate call in the Work of the ministry Salary and support in this Parish of Hampton falls be Repealed and absolutely Revoked and made void &c." Which being Delivered to the select men they Denied calling a meeting, looking upon it altogether as Improper after matters had been fairly and clearly determined at fair and Legal meetings to call a meeting to Revoke the same as it would be after a minister had been settled Ever so Long to have a meeting to Revoke all that had ever been done. The absurdity and Impropriety of which they tho't must be quite Evident, with several other Reasons which they gave the Petitioners in writing in answer to their Request, in hopes to satisfy them that their Request was unreasonable. However it had not this Effect But they Proceeded to get a meeting called by two Justices at which meeting they voted all the Proceedings Relating to Mr. Wingates settlement to be Null and Void. But not trusting to this when the council was convened a Committee of the above Persons appeared & Objected to Mr Wingates being Ordained; But never made the Least Objection against his Doctrine, life or Conversation but on the Contrary, being asked by the Council whether they had any Objections of this sort, said they had not neither did they make the Least Suggestion that they were of a Different Perswasion.

We hope your Excellency and Honors will Excuse this so long a Rehearsal of the Transaction of said Parish Relative to these affairs as all the Objections hitherto made were against the Proceedings of the Parish as Illegal and unfair—for that of being Presbyterians had not yet come into their minds and these Objections as in the Present Petition couched in General terms without assigning a single Instance Wherein they were unprecedented or justly Grievous which made it necessary for to give a Particular accompt of the whole Proceedings that the Instance wherein we have failed, may be Pointed Out, for we never yet could tell wherein it was. From this state of facts we apprehend it will appear clear to your Excellency and Honours that the transactions of said Parish Relative to Mr Wingate's settlement have been Regular and agreeable to the Law and Practise in such cases That his call to settlement, was as clear and Indisputable as Generally can be Expected and that those who afterwards were Drawn in-to oppose it had

no just cause for so doing. That at the time when Mr. Wingate was ordained, none of these Petitioners had the least tho't of being of a different Perswasion, for if they had it must be supposed they would have made that one objection before the Councill. We are therefore fully Perswaded that they will appear wholly Inexcusable in Representing as they do in their Petition as if Mr Wingates Religious Sentiments, and the Doctrines Preached by him were the ground of their uneasiness, the contrary to which they themselves declared before the Councill. Moreover from the best Information we can get one Quarter part at least of these Petitioners, never heard Mr Wingate Preach in their lives and many others of them not more than once or twice and not one in twenty of them ever had the least conversation with him to Know any thing of his Religious Sentiments. And they have put down the Name of one at Least in their Petition who his own father has Represented as an Idiot so wanting of understanding that he ought not to be taxed for his head and he has been accordingly omitted and many of the Other Petitioners do not own one Inch of Real Estate in the Parish. How fair these things are we leave to be Judged, and of the like sort is their assertion that near one half of the Inhabitants of said Parish Constantly opposed Mr Wingates settlement and dissented therefrom, the Contrary to which is Evident from the foregoing state of facts.

That these Petitioners as well as we are Intitled to his Majestys Grace and favour we have not the least doubt—and this we look upon to be so great a Priviledge and favour, that it ought never to be made use of to serve wrong Purposes, and here we beg leave only to Remark, that if any number of Persons without any the least pretence of being of a Different Perswasion or any the least Objection to the settled minister as to his Doctrine, Life, or Conversation (which was the fact here) may at any time Seperate and set up as a Distinct Society by themselves, without any Countenance from authority, and whether those they Seperate from Remain able to support the minister or not (whatever Denomination such may please to assume afterwards) there evidently Can be no Certain support for the Ministry at all, which is very far from being the Design of the Act of Toleration, And plainly tends to Destroy Religion of all Denominations.

That these Petitioners have the true Doctrines of Grace and Salvation preached to them according to their sense of these things we have nothing to say to, and that they are so Preached by Mr Wingate Even these Petitioners themselves after all their Endeavors, could never find the least Objection to make to the Contrary, so that the Inuendo's and suggestions against Mr Wingate's Preaching are put in as we conceive for no other

Reason than that they tho't it necessary in Order to their having any Colour for what they Ask. that there should have been in Reality what they without the least foundation Suggest. Such methods we think quite needless in a Good cause and they will we trust be quite unavailable in any Other. Wherefore we Humbly Pray, not only on behalf of the Parish of Hampton falls But of all Religious Societys in General that the Petition may be Dismissed. For we think that Encouraging Persons in Methods such as these Petitioners have Practised will have a direct tendency to Destroy Religious Societys of every Denomination.

But if it shall Appear Otherwise to your Excellency and Honors, we Humbly Pray that they may be made a Distinct Parish to act in all Respects by themselves, we being fully convinced from what we have already Experienced how great will be the Difficulties of being Connected in Civil matters while there is a Separation as to Others. For which Reason the Parish were willing Notwithstanding the unreasonableness of all their Proceedings that they should go off as a Distinct Parish and their not accepting of this we think Shews their Disposition more to keep the Parish in Difficulties, than that Religious Principles are the foundation of their Proceedings.

MESHECH WEARE	} Committee.
RICHARD NASON	
JONATHAN TILTON	
CALEB SANBORN	
NATHANIEL GOVE	
ABNER SANBORN JR	

Petition for a Presbyterian Society renewed—(with slight alterations).

1767 To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, To His Honorable his Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province Convened in General Assembly July 3^d 1767.

The Petition of the Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Hampton falls in said Province, Humbly Sheweth.

That about three years ago the Rev^d Mr Pain Wingate in the Congregational way and manner was settled in the work of the ministry in said town:

That the Doctrines Preached by the said Rev^d Mr Pain Wingate are very different from those of your petitioners and dis-

agreeable to them. That your Petitioners apprehended they could not be Profited by the Preaching and ministration of the said Rev^d Mr Wingate. That the measures taken by the said Town in order to the Settlement and support of the said Mr Wingate are as your Petitioners Conceive unprecedented and Justly Grievous to them, and that Therefore your petitioners and many others (near one half thereof) constantly opposed his Settlement there and Dissented therefrom. That your Petitioners are Conscientiously of the Presbyterian Perswasion Respecting Church Government, Doctrin Discipline and Worship That thay with others of their Brethren of that said perswasion have for some time Past Been Regularly formed into a church built a meeting House in said Town for the Public Worship of God, Called and settled a minister in the Presbyterian way Namely the Rev^d Mr Samuel Perley. That your Petitioners Conscientiously and Constantly on the Lords day and at other times occasionally attend the Publick Worship of God there according to their said Perswasion—That the Premises Notwithstanding the select men of the town of Hampton falls for two years Past have Rated your Petitioners for the support of the said Mr Wingate, which some of your Petitioners have been Imprisoned therefor, which your Petitioners apprehend to be a Greivious and unreasonable Burthan upon them. Therefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray your Excellency and Honors to take their case under your wise consideration, and as they Conceive themselves to be Intitled to his Majestys Grace and Faviour in allowing to all his subjects Liberty of Conscience and that it is unreasonable for them to be Compelled to Pay towards the support of a minister whom they do not hear and attend upon for the Reasons aforesaid when at the same time they are at the Expende of maintaining Publick Worship amonge themselves: Thay pray your Excellency and Honors would Grant them Relief in the Premises by Exonerating them their families and Estates and all other within said town of Hampton falls who are of the same perswasion and attend the Publick Worship with them from all ministerial Rates and taxes in said town Excepting to their own minister and setting them off as a distincek Parish for ministerial affairs only and enabling the said Presbyterian Congregation to Raise and Levy upon themselves such taxes and assessments as they shall from time to time Find necessary for the support of the ministry and Publick Worship of God amonge thamselves: and as in duty bound shall ever pray &c &c.

Ebenezer Knowlton
Henry Robie
Richard Smith
Jacob Smith
Samuel Selley

Abel Davis
Joseph Norton
Winthrop Gove
John Eaton Jr
Job Haskell

John Chase Jr
Benjamin Eaton
Enoch Gove
Samuel Pearkins
Wimon Eaton
Thomas Seley
John Seley
Thomas Eaton
Jonathan Weare
Joseph Page
Thomas True
David Knowlton
Elisha Brown
Jonathan Chase, Jr
Thomas Brown
Joseph Chase
Joshua Page
Abel Page
John Eaton

Jonathan Hoyt
John True
Jacob Freanch
Simon Clough
Abner True
Jonathan Walton
Ebenezer Gove
Samuel Eaton
Elisha Merrill
Samuel Felch
Joseph Falch
William French
Paul Greenleaf
Sam^l Philbrick
John Chase
Isaac Brown
Benjamin Leavitt
Nathan Gove.

Province of New Hampshire.

In Council Septem^r 22^d 1767.

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

T. Atkinson Jr Secry.

Province of New Hampshire { In the House of Representatives Sept^r
22^d 1767.

Upon Reading the foregoing Petition Voted that the Petition^r be heard on the said Petition on the third Day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the first Day of November next & that they serve the select men of Hampton falls with a Copy of said Petition & the order of the assembly thereon within fourteen days from this time.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council, Eodem Die

Read & Concurred.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of New Hamps^r

In the House of Representatives Feby^y 12th 1768.

The within Petition being Considered, Voted that it be dismiss'd Reserving to the Petitioners Liberty to Bring in a Bill as heretofore Granted to be set off as a Distinct Parish in all Respects.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Feby 18th 1768.

Read & concurrd

Geo. King, Depy Secry.

An Act for dividing Hampton Falls into two Parishes.

Anno regni Regis Georgii tertii Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ et Hiberniæ Octavo.

An act for dividing the town of Hampton Falls into two distinct Parishes.

Whereas a number of the Inhabitants of the Town of Hampton Falls have petitioned to be sett of into a distinct & New Parish for reasons in their said Petition set forth and approved of.

Be it enacted by his Excellency the Governor Council & Representatives in General Assembly Convened and by the authority of the same it is hereby enacted

That on or before the — day of — next the aforesaid Town of Hampton Falls shall be divided into two Parishes, each of which shall enjoy all and every Priviledges common to other Parishes, distinct and seperate from each other, under the following Exceptions and Restrictions vizt. A Divisional Line shall be drawn & settled by a committee of the General Court for that Purpose and all such of the Inhabitants who are of the Presbyterian Perswasion whose Estates shall not fall within the new Parish shall be poll'd off and belong thereto, and any of the Congregational Inhabitants whose Estates shall fall within the New Parish shall be poll'd off with their Estates and belong to the old Parish, and the Estates of all nonresident Proprietors that shall fall within the New Parish shall be assessed for all Parish Taxes (excepting ministerial) by the said New Parish.

—

Report of a Committee to fix the line between the said two Parishes.

Province of) We the Subscribers being appointed by a vote of
New Hampshire } the General assembly to fix a Line in the Town of
Hampton falls in order to The southern Part There-
of Being Erected into a Distinct Parish accordingly we have viewed
the Premises Heard the Parties &c and agree to Report that a Line Be-
ginning on Kensington Line near Joseph Browns Dwelling house at a
Road called Horsehill Road and Following said road Down to a Bridge
Below Weare mill then easterly on the North Line of Elisha Browns
Land to the North East corner Thereof by the Quaker Parsonage (so
called) Then following the Road that leads by Henry Thresher's house
to the country road, Then following the Line Between Land of Abra-
ham Dow and Ralph Butler and Isaac Brown and between Said Dow
& Meshech Weare Esq. to the south East corner of said Weare's marsh
at Browns River (so called) then following said River to the western
End of the parsonage Island (so called) then Round on the southern
and Eastern Sides of said Island to the afors^d River and to the mouth
thereof, shall be the Dividing Line between the two Parishes.

Hampton Falls April 27th 1768.

John Giddinge	} Committee
Josiah Bartlett	
Ebenezer Thompson	

Province of)
New Hamps^r } In the House of Representatives May 24th 1768.

The within Report being Read and no objection made

Voted. That the Report be accepted and that the Petitioners may
bring in a bill agreeable thereto

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council May 24. 1768

Read & concurr'd.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Petition of the Parish of Hampton Falls in relation to delinquent tax-payers.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq.
 New Hampshire } Capt. Gen^l Governor & Commander in
 Rockingham ss } cheif in & over said Province, The
 Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of
 Representatives in general Assembly conven'd May. 1772.

The Petition of us the subscribers a committee in behalf of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Parish of Hampton Falls in said County Humbly sheweth, that the selectmen for the year 1770 of the said Parish assessed the Inhabitants & Freeholders of the same in the sum of fifty five Pounds sterling money for their ministers salary and afterwards at a Legal meeting of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the same Parish it was, among other things Voted that the selectmen for the year 1770 should be Directed not to make any tax or assessment on the Polls or estates in s^d Parish for the support of their minister (the Rev^d Mr Wingate) for that year and afterwards at another meeting of the same Freeholders and inhabitants the said Vote was Ratified and confirmed in consequence of which the selectmen aforesaid did not proceed to issue their warrant to the Constable of said Parish Impowering him to collect the taxes as they had before assess'd them but neglected by which means none of the Taxes asses'd aforesaid were that year collected—And your Petitioners in behalf of s^d Parish of Hampton falls further shew that the Inhabitants & Freeholders of the same Parish at their Legal meeting the following year (viz the year 1771) Passed a vote Impowering and ordering the selectmen for that year to issue their Warrant to the Constable authorizing him to collect the Taxes for the preceding year as they were assessed by the then selectmen for said Parish for the purpose of paying their s^d ministers salary. They also Voted & appointed us a Committee to give security to the said Rev^d Mr Wingate for the Payment of the Salary before mentioned on or before the first Day of March then next together with one years interest for the same & if not Paid at that time to be upon interest untill Paid. Consequent upon which last Vote, your Petitioners gave the Rev^d Mr Wingate their Bond for Fifty five Pounds sterling for the Salary Due to him for the year 1770 and the selectmen for 1771 issued their Warrant Directly to the Constable impowering him to collect the Taxes for the preceding year of Parishioners as before assessed agreeable to said Vote. but afterwards Doubting the Propriety & Regularity of the Vote impowering the selectmen for one year to Rectify the mistakes and negligences of the select men for a preceding year said selectmen forbid the Constable Distraining upon any for said Tax (at lest for a time)

but still Requiring him to Collect the same as near as Possible without Destraint which accordingly he has done and has collected the major part thereof, viz: about three fourths—and we further shew that since the assessment of said tax which was in 1770. many of the Parishioners have withdrawn from said Parish & joyned themselves to the Presbyterian Society in Seabrook & Elsewhere whereby to Exempt themselves from ministerial Charges in said Parish which withdrawalment was in 1771 before making of the assessments for that year therefore looking upon themselves clear of being taxed to any ministerial charges either for the present year or the arrearages for the year preceding and the selectmen authority to impower the Constable to collect said arrearages according to said Vote, being frequently Disputed. whereupon those thus withdrawn as aforesaid Refused to pay their proportion of said arrearages (altho not Denying it justly Due) unless upon certain conditions by themselves proposed upon which they would Readily Pay the same without Difficulty altho they could not be compelled to do it which conditions were complied with by the selectmen to whom they were by themselves proposed whereupon the major part of said arrearages was immediately Paid without Objection & continuing to be collecting untill after a while one & another of those who were in the agreement as aforesaid objects & Refuses to Pay & the number increasing Whereupon others who before had nothing to object against paying their proportion of the same have also Refused & still Refuse untill all shall be compelled to do likewise. The names of those who have not paid their Proportion of said ministers Salary for 1770 are as follows. viz.

Ralph Butler
Philip Burns
Christopher Blake
Richard Brown
Abraham Burnam
Joshua Chase
John Davis
Joel Haskiel
Zebulon Hilyard
Simeon Hilyard
Benj^r Hilyard
William Lang
Stephen Lang
John Lucy
Amos Leavit
Francis Marshall
Richard Mace
Josiah Moulton

Richard Nason, Esq
Jonathan Nason
Joseph Pervere
Lieut Sam Prescott
Samuel Robie
Nathan Rowe
Jonathan Stanyan
Enoch Sanborn
Malichi Shaw
Dudley Sanborn
Capt Caleb Sanborn
Jonathan Tilton, Jr
Nathan Weare
Capt Walter Williams
Col Meshech Weare
Chase Williams
Melcher Ward,

(which were then Inhabitants in said Parish of Hampton falls those who were not inhabitants having some Interest in said Parish are as follows viz.)

Thomas Rand

Col Jonathan Moulton

Christopher Toppan Esq
 Theo's Smith Esq
 Joseph Sweesey
 Ebenezer Barker
 Jeremiah Prescott
 Wid^e Elizabeth Blake

Francis Batchelder
 Edward Sleeper
 Samuel Colkett
 Edward Tuck
 Jesse Tuck
 Benjamin Brown

Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of said Parish Humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours would take the Premises into your serious Consideration and as it would be very hard as well as inequitable that the whole burthen of Taxes should fall only on a part of the Parish when all have been equally Benifited & your Petitioners Doubting the Propriety & Regularity of the Vote as aforesaid & their own ability to compel the Delinquents to a compliance therewith, your Petitioners Humbly beg that your Excellency & Honors would order the said Delinquents to pay the several sums they are Respectfully assessed for the said year 1770, & your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray.

Hampton falls May 29th 1772.

JEREMIAH BLAKE
 WILLIAM DAVISON
 JEREMIAH LANE
 DAVID BACHELDER
 JONATHAN BURNAM

Petition of Selectmen of Hampton Falls for leave to make a rate, &c.

Province of) To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq
 New Hampshire) Governor in Chief in & over said Province. The Honourable the Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

The Humble Petition of Benjamin Tilton, William Davison and Nehemiah Cram Selectmen of Hampton falls in the County of Rockingham & Province aforesaid. Sheweth, that on the 22^d Day of May last in the thirteenth year of his Majestys Reign, your Excellency & Honors past an act intituled, "An act for dissolving the annual meeting of the Inhabitants of the Parish of Hampton falls and authorizing the holding a new meeting," and in & by the same act (among other things) the said annual meeting is declared illegal & the Proceedings thereof wholly made null and void, and a new meeting of said Inhabitants for transacting the annual Business of said Parish ordered, and the Honorable John Phillips Esq. a member of said house appointed to call and govern said last mentioned meeting till the Business thereof be ended.

By Virtue of which said act a new meeting was called and held at said Hampton falls on the 28th of June last at which your Petitioners were duly chosen select men of said Hampton falls and legally sworn to Execute that office, but your Petitioners were chosen into that office after the time by Law fixed for taking the invoice for the current year was expired and no Power being given your Petitioners after their Election to take an Invoice they have hitherto been prevented from making any Rates in said Hampton falls and must still be so without the Interposition of the Legislative authority of your Excellency & Honors in that Behalf. And whereas the selectmen chosen at said annual meeting took part, and other persons appointed by order of said house took the rest of the invoice for said Hampton falls for the year 1773 the whole of which Invoice so taken was Exhibited to the General Assembly for said Province for the Purpose of assessing the Inhabitants of said Hampton falls their proportion of the Province Tax:

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that they as selectmen afore's^d may be authorized to assess & Rate the Inhabitants of said Hampton falls according to the Invoice so taken & Exhibited to your Excellency & Honours, and that the same Invoice may be made good, as if the same had been seasonably & properly taken or that your Petitioners may be empowered to take a new invoice and to make the Rates in s^d Hampton falls agreeable thereto, and your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

December 24th 1773.

BENJ^a TILTON
WILLIAM DAVISON
NEHEMIAH CRAM.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Jan^y 19, 1774, this pe-
New Hampsh } tition was read & Voted that the petitioners proceed
by the old Inventory as soon as may be, and that they
have leave to bring in a Resolve accordingly
Wm Parker, Cler.

In Council Eodem Die,
Read and Concurr'd.

Geo. King, D. Secry.

HANOVER.

[Hanover was granted by charter July 4, 1761, to eleven persons of the name of Freenian, and 52 others, principally from Connecticut. The first settlement was made in May, 1765. Ed.]

Petition of John House about Islands in Connecticut river.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and Over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in Council

The Petition of John House of Hanover in the Province aforesaid, Gentleman, unto your Excellency & the Hon^{ble} Council Humbly shews

That your Petitioner was one of the first settlers of said Township with great fatigue and Expence, and has continued to improve his Interest there to this Time. That he purchased of James Hovey two certain Islands in Connecticut River at an expence of twenty Pounds Lawfull money, which Islands lies opposite to said Township and contains together about twelve acres and have always been improved by said Hovey and your Petitioner on a Presumption that they belonged to said Township & said Hovey claimed them in his Right of Proprietorship & Prior occupancy, your Petitioner has been since informed that all Islands in said River not Expressly mentioned in Town grants still remain the Property of his Majesty and for the considerations aforementioned, He humbly hopes to obtain y^r Excellencys and Honours Favours to him, in continuing him in his Possessions & Improvements of said Islands & to grant him the Property of the same, or otherways to relieve him on the Prayer of this his Petition as y^r Excellency and Honours may Judge best, And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

JOHN HOUSE.

Portsm^r December 29th 1770.

HILLSBOROUGH.

[A settlement was begun in this town in 1741, by James McCalley, Samuel Gibson, and others; but was broken up in 1744. It was resumed not far from 1759; and incorporated by charter, Nov. 14, 1772. Ed.]

Province of } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq.
New Hampshire } Captain General, Governor & Commander
in chief in and over said Province The
Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council and the Hon^{ble} the House of
Representatives for said Province in General Assembly to
be convened at Portsmouth in said Province on the 20 Day
of march next.

The petition of Divers of the Inhabitants of Hillsborough in said Province Humbly sheweth that the Inhabitants of said Hillsborough were obliged to cut and clear a road through a Tract of Land call'd the Societys Land near eight miles in Length which Road we have maintained on our own Cost near seven years being the only way we could come to our own Lands which road has cost us a great sum of money and for two years past we have been obliged to pay province Taxes--Wherefore we Humbly pray your Excellency and Honours would please to make an act to oblige the proprietors & owners of said Societys Land to maintain and keep said Road in repair for the benefit of themselves the Inhabitants of said Hillsborough & Inhabitants of the country around us, your petitioners in duty Bound will ever pray.

Hillsborough Feby. 15th 1770.

Samuel Bradford
Timothy Bradford
Henry Codd
Anthony Morin
Samuel Bradford
Peter Codd
John McCalley
James Gibson
John Gibson
Josiah Colledge
William Pope
Moses Steel
Jonathan Durent
Daniel M Murphy
Timothy Wilkins
Nehemiah Wilkins

Samuel Bradford, Jr
William Williams
Isaac Andrews
John Mead
Abijah Lovejoy
Benjamin Lovejoy
Benjamin Lovejoy, Jr.
Isaac Baldwin
Nathan Taylor
James Taggart
Archibald Taggart
Joshua Estey
William Taggart Jr
Robert Taggart
John Taggart.

In Council March 28th 1770

The within Petition was read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

Geo: King, D. Secry

Province of }
New Hamps* } In the House of Representatives March 28th 1770.

Voted, That the Petitioners be heard on their Petition on the third day of the siting of the General Assembly after the first day of May next and that they cause the Substance of their Petition and this Order of Court to be Published two weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazette that any person may shew cause why the Prayer thereof should not be granted.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Mar. 29th 1770.

Read & concur'd

Geo. King, D. Secry

Province of } In the House of Representatives Jan'y 1st 1771. The
New Hampshr } within Petition being Considered and appearing
Reasonable

Voted, That the Petitioners have liberty to Bring in a Bill for the purpose mentioned in the Petition

M. Weare, Clr.

The Deposition of John McCalley of Lawful Eage testifyeth and sayes, that to his certain Knowledge that the Road through the Society Land so called leading to Hillsborough was cut out at the Cost of the Inhabitants of said Hillsborough.

John McCalley.

June the 18th 1770.

Province of } June the 18th 1770. Then the above named John
New Hampshire } McCalley Personally appeared and after Due Caution
and careful Examination made a solemn oath to the truth of the above Deposition by him signed to be used at the General Court of the Province aforesaid in behalf of the Petition that the Inhabitants of Hillsborough has preferred to said General Cort. Praying that the Road through the Society land may be made Good at the cost of the owners of said land.

Before, William Clark, Jus. Peace.

The Deposition of John Gibson of Lawful Eage testifyeth and says that he helped to clear out the Road through the Societyland so called that leads to Hillsborough and that it was done at the cost of the Inhabitants of said Hillsborough (1).

John Gibson.

June the 18th 1770.

Province of } June the 18th 1770, then the above named John
New Hampshire } Gibson Personalley appeared and after Due caution
and carefull Examination made solemn oath to truth of the above Deposition by him signed to be used at the General Cort of the Province aforesaid in behalf of a Petition that the inhabitants of Hillsborough has preferred to said General Cort Praying that the Road through the Society land leading to Hillsborough may be made good at the cost of the owners of said Land.

Before William Clark, Jus. Peace.

(1) The above depositions were to be used in behalf of the foregoing petition for roads. Ed.

Petition for an Act of Incorporation.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governor and commander in chief In and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, And to the Honourable his Majestys Council of said Province.

The Petition of the subscribers Inhabitants of a Township

called Hillsborough in the Province aforesaid, Humbly sheweth, That we have been subjected to the payment of Province & County Taxes as fully as the inhabitants of towns in this Province, but have not enjoyed equal priviledges. We are humbly of opinion that. Collecting of Taxes would be facilitated to us, good order maintained, the culture of our land Encouraged, and many inconveniences removed and good purposes answered by an incorporation. Therefore we pray that said Township Butted and Bounded as follows viz. Beginning at the Southeast corner of a Beach Tree marked 7. from thence South Eighty four degrees & 30 minutes west about six miles by the Society Lands so called to a Beach tree marked 7 & 8, from thence north fifteen degrees West about six miles by comon Land so called to a Beach Tree marked 7 & 8 from thence North Eighty four degrees & 30 minutes East about six miles to a Beach tree marked 7, from thence about six miles by the Town of Henniker to the Bounds first mentioned may be erected and incorporated a Body politic infranchised with the same powers & Priviledges that other Towns in this Province have & enjoy. And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever Pray.

Jonathan Duren
Timothy Wilkins
Abijah Lovejoy
John Sargent
John Steel
Archibald Taggart
James Gibson
William Taggart
John M^cCalley
George Bemaine
William Clark

William Jones
Benjamin Lovejoy Jr
John Gibson
William Pope
William Williams
Isaac Baldwin
Daniel M^cNeall
Joseph Clark
Isaac Andrews
Alexander M^cClintock
Samuel Bradford

*Petition of John Hill in behalf of Hillsborough and
Peterborough, for protection from the Indians.*

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General & Governor in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, To the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

Jn^r Hill in behalf of himself & the other proprietors of a Township N^o 7. in the line of Towns commonly called Hillsborough & another Township called Peterborough both in the Province of New Hampshire, humbly shews That your Petitioners & the other s^d proprietors have been at great Charge & Expence in settling & bringing forward y^e s^d Townships to their present circumstances, there being near 40 familys that would

now be in Each of s^t Towns but are discouraged by the danger of an Indian War. & are now ready to go on if they can be protected in their settlement. Wherefore your Petitioner in behalf of himself & the other proprietors pray in Consideration of the great Expence they have been at in these settlements and the manifest advantage that will accrue to this Province from them. that being Frontier Towns they may be Defended & protected by this Government as Your Excellency & Houn^{ts} shall seem meet & your Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

JOHN HILL.

Indorsed, "John Hills, Petition 1744."

HINSDALE.

[This town was originally part of Northfield, Ms., from which it was separated when the boundary line was established in 1741. It was incorporated by charter, Sept. 3, 1753. Ed.]

Petition of Col. Ebenezer Hinsdale in behalf of Northfield.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire and the Honorable His Majestys Council for said Province.

The Humble Petition of Ebenezer Hinsdale of Northfield in said Province Esq. In behalf of himself & others Proprietors of the Land in said Place a List of whose names is herewith presented, Shews.

That they & those under whom they claim said Land have possessed & Improved the same upwards of Seventy years having first entered thereon under a Grant of the Government of the Massachusetts Bay & have in that time Encounter'd all the Difficulties of the Indian Wars & Struggled with other hardships Incident to Frontier settlements begun in the wilderness remote from cultivated Lands:

That they have Improv'd the same to a Considerable Degree by reason whereof the said place is not only of great advantage to the settlers but useful to the Government wherein it is situate in many Respects too obvious to need enumerating, whereby they have som Just pretensions to such Favours as may be granted by the Government to any of his Majestys Good Subjects & with regard to such as have relation to this settlement to be prefer'd to any others:

That if no Legal title to the said Lands can be derived to the

Grantees under the Governm^t of the Massachusetts, yet by virtue of such a Long Seizin in a Country so exposed where the Difficulty of Improving of Lands has been vastly beyond what it is near other settlements where the settlers have with a resolution & Courage scarce Parallel'd Maintain'd their Possessions against all Discouragements & made an useful settlement now in a condition to succour the neighbouring Infant Plantations they seem to have a Legal Right to hold the same Exonerated from all other Duty, than what Loyal Subjects owe to their Prince & the Government under which they live For they have Purchased the Estates they claim here at a Dear Rate upon a just Computation at Least they Humbly Conceive it must be allow'd that in Equity they ought so to Enjoy them :

Wherefore they pray That your Excellency would be pleased to Incorporate the settlers upon & the Lands called Northfield within the Province of New Hampshire in consideration of the Premises with other particular Tracts laid out for farms to Particular persons (whose names are Distinguished in said List) adjacent there unto, Into a Township & Invest them with the Rights & Privileges which other Towns Enjoy in said Province if your Excellency & Honours can by any means grant the same But if not that you would be Pleased to grant the said Lands & Farms to the said Claimers in Proportion & according to their Respective claims with such other Lands not claimed to such Persons as you shall Judge proper and Incorporate the whole as aforesd as that will greatly Facilitate the Further Cultivation & Improvement of said Lands and your Petitioners in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

EBENEZER HINSDALE.

[No date.]

Petition of Proprietors and claimers of land in Northfield south of the Province line.

Province of) To His Excellency Benning Wentworth
New Hampshire) Esq. Governour & Commander in Chief
in & over his Majesties Province of New
Hampshire & to the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council for s^d
Province:

The Petition of the Proprietors claimers of Land lying within his Majesties Province aforesaid heretofore Part of the Propriety & Town of Northfield as the same was granted by the Province of the Mass^{ts} Bay but by the dividing Line of the Province now falls to the North of the said Dividing Line, Humbly shews that your Petitioners have long esteemed the s^d Tract of Land their own Property but being informed by your

Excelley and Honours that the same is his Majesties to be granted to such of his subjects as are desirous to take a grant upon his Majesties Terms Conditions & Reservations, We Humbly pray that we may have a grant of the same so as not to interfere or destroy our former survey & laying out, which we hope considering our long Possession & the great Charge & cost we have been at in defending the same will give us the Preference to any others of his Majesties subjects and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Aug^r 29th 1753.

Ebenezer Alexander
Joseph Burt
Jonathan Belding
Samuel Hunt
Isaac Mattoon
Nathl Mattoon
Azariah Wright
Remembrance Wright
Benoni Wright
Phineas Wright
William Wright
Willm Holton
Willm Holton, Jr.
Ebenezer Severance
Benjn Rose
Benjn Brooks
Daniel Brooks
Saml Merriman
Samuel Smith
Jonathan Jones
Seth Field
David Field
Ebenr Field
Ebenr Field, Jr
Moses Field
Samuel Field
Paul Field
Rufus Field
Joshua Lyman
Sarah Petty
Alexr Norton
Benjn Miller
Philip Mattoon
Israel Warner
Ebenr Warner
Eleazer Patterson
Samuel Holton
Moses Evans
Randel Evens
Lydia Doolittle
Lucius Doolittle
Amzi Doolittle

Zeb'dh Stebbins
Thos Stebbins
Hezekiah Stratton
Ebenezer Stratton
Samuel Stratton
John Stratton
Eleazer Stratton
Hezekiah Stratton Jr
Nathl Dickinson's Heirs
Moses Dickinson
Nathl Dickinson
Willm Orvis
Stephen Belding
Asahel Burts, Heirs
Aaron Burt
Abraham Elgar
Joseph Alexander
Philip Alexander
Saml Root
Simeon Alexander
John Hollon
Bildad Andras
Joshua Holtons, Heirs
Joseph Pettys, Heirs
Margaret Petty.
Joseph Petty
Josiah Foster
Jonathan Morton
Timothy Nash
Gains Field
Saml Ashley
Hezh Elmer
Jacob Elmer
Daniel Elmer
John Avery
John Grundy
Beriah Grundy
Henry Kenney
Pedajiah Field
Joseph Stebbins
Nehemiah Wright.

Petition of Ebenezer Hinsdale for protection against the Indians.

Hinsdale Decemb^r 24th 1755

To His Excell^y Bening Wentworth Esq. Capt Gen^l & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampsh^r To the Honour^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives when In Gen^l Court Assembled.

The petition of Ebenezer Hinsdale of Hinsdale in the province of New Hampsh^r In behalfe of himself & others of said Town, Humbly Sheweth that the said Place is the first Town above the Massachusetts line on Connecticut River a part of which has been under Improvement for sixty or seventy years past;

That they have now made Considerable Improvements Even above any Town. Ship In the province of New Hampsh^r on s^d River;

That they have been formerly Protected by the Province of the Massachusetts Bay but have Lately been much Neglected as not being within their Line of Jurisdiction;

That of late we have been kindly cared for of your Excell^y & Honours which Imboldens us to pray to you for yo^r further care.

We look upon ourselves one of the most Exposed places in these parts In as much as the desent from Crown Point by the way of Otter Creek & down west River (out of the way of our Forts at Lake George &c) Is as Easey by West River to us as by Black River to Charles town the uppermost Settlement on Connecticut River.

It is Evident from the Numerous attacks made on this place at the close of the last Warr, and their Repeated strokes on us the last Summer that we are a people much Exposed & Stand in as special need of your Protection as any Place what so ever, and without it we cannot long continue here.

I have Completed the best fortification in these parts as will be allowed by any who have seen it. It appears hard to give it up to his Majestys Enemies. Never the less I must be obliged to Resign it with out your assistance In the Protection of it.

We are in Constant fear of an Enemy desending upon us since the forces are drawn off in a great measure from Lake George In as much as those Forts maintain'd there stand not in the Way of the Enemies usuall Desent upon these frontiers.

We therefore Intreat you will afford us a speedy & Steady Protection & we as in Duty bound will ever pray.

EBENEZ^r HINSDALE,
In y^e name of y^e rest.

In Council Jan^y 2^d 1756.

Read & recommended & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Theod^r Atkinson, Secry.

Petition of Daniel Jones of Hinsdale for remission of taxes.

To his Excellency Bennaing Wentworth Esq. Captain General and Governor in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the Honorable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in Generall Court Assembled, June 25th 1766.

The petition of Daniel Jones of Hinsdale within said Province of New Hampshire in Behalf of the Inhabitants of that part of Hinsdale which lieth within The province of New Hampshire aforesaid, Humbly shews That by his Majestys Order in Council of July 20th 1764 Connecticut River is the Dividing Line Between the Province of New Hampshire & New York By which settlements Near one half of y^r Poles and Rateable Estate within the Town of Hinsdale are taken into the Province of New York. By which means the Inhabitants of that part of said Hinsdale which lieth within the Province of New Hampshire have been obliged to pay for y^r year past towards the province tax that whole sum of money or proportion of the province tax that used to be Laid on the Inhabitants & Rateable Estate of y^e Town of Hinsdale on Both sides of Connecticut River. Your Petitioner therefore in Behalf of the Inhabitants of y^e town of Hinsdale within said Province of N. Hampshire Humbly prays your Excellency and Honors woud remit to said Inhabitants that part of the Province tax that would have been laid on y^e Inhabitants of Hinsdale on the Western side of Connecticut River had they have remained to y^e Province of New Hampshire for y^r year past & also to assess them for the Future in the same proportion with other Towns within said Province all which is humbly submitted by

DAN^l JONES.

June 5th 1766.

Province of New Hampshire,

In Council 4th July 1766,

Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} house.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

At a Legall meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Hinsdale held at Hinsdale on y^e 30th day of October 1765, Voted, that Daniel Jones Esq. Messrs Thomas Taylor & Daniel Shattuck the Selectmen of said Town of Hinsdale or Either of them is hereby appointed and desired to-

prefer a petition to the Generall Court for the province of New Hampshire desiring an abatement of the province Tax for the present Year and for the Future as a Considerable part of said Town of Hinsdale that used to be Taxed for the support of the Province of New Hampshire is Now within the province of New York

The above is a True Coppy of Record Extracted from the Records of the Towh of Hinsdale within the province of New Hampshire.

Pr. Dan^l Jones Town Clerk, for said Hinsdale.

Decem^r 9th 1767.

*Province rate for the town of Hinsdale, 1764, including
Polls, Real estate & Personal estate.*

[The sum total of each only is carried out. Ed.]

NAMES.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Thomas Holton		10	3	2
William Orvis		14	1	
Eleazer Paterson		11	10	2
Samuel Stratton	1	3	6	2
Joseph Stebbins	1	7	8	2
Jacob Elmer		4	7	2
Jonathan Hunt	1	4	10	2
Capt. Orlando Bridgman		13		1
Orlando Bridgman, jr.		3	9	1
John Bridgman		12	7	
Amos Tute		14	6	2
Daniel Sargeant		8	9	2
Rufus Sargeant		8	6	2
Isaac Barret		15	1	
Capt. Nathan Willard	1	2	9	
Wd. Lois Butler		3	4	2
Moses Rice		3	9	1
Benjamin Barret		9	3	
Benj ^r Barret, jun.		5	5	
Oliver Barret		5	7	3
John Barret		4	1	
Thomas Rockwood		3	9	1
Daniel Jones, Esq ^r	1	2		2
Mrs. Abigail Hinsdale alias Hall		15	3	
Daniel Shattuck		19	5	2
Peter Evans	1	9	11	2
Aaron Cooper		12	1	2
Ebenezer Cooper		6		2
Elijah Cooper		6		2
Col. Wm. Symms		3	11	2
En. Thos. Taylor	1	2	4	
Lt. John Evans	1	9	3	
Hez ^r Elmer		12	10	2
Aaron Wright		7	2	3
Moses Belding		12	9	
Samuel Orvis		3	7	
Wm. Orvis, jun.		3	9	1
Sam ^l Friswell		1	6	
Reuben Friswell		4	4	3
Benj. Emmons		4	1	
Josiah Mirick		6	1	
Israel Rowley		3	7	
Joseph Prentice		3	7	
Zur. Evans ?		3	11	2
Dr Sam ^l Mattoon		1		
John Holton			9	
Lt. Jon ^a Belding		7		

Province rate for Hinsdale (continued).

NAMES.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Lt. Josh. Lyman		1	9	
Simeon Lyman		1	9	
Seth Lyman		1	9	
Gus. Thos. Alexander		1	10	2
Aaron Burt		8	3	
Sam ^l Smith, jun		1	6	
Elisha Smith		1	3	
Reuben Smith		1		
Joseph Stebbins			3	
Zebadiah Stebbins			3	
Josiah Stebbins			3	
Ebenezer Stratton			10	2
Hezekiah Stratton		1	3	
D ^r Medad Pomroy		1		
D ^r Bildad Andrews		1	6	
David Wright			9	
Reuben Wright			9	
	£26			

This Rate of the Province Tax is to be understood in Sterling or Lawful money of great Brittain, made by us

John Evans
Wm. Orvis
John Bridgman } assessors

Nov^r 27, 1764.

Province of New Hamp^s May 29th 1766.

Then Mr. Amos Tute appeared before me & made Oath that the within is a true copy of an assessment made for the Province tax for y^e year 1764, which was committed to him as constable to collect, and it is y^e assessment by which y^e Rate was collected.

Dan^l Jones, Jus. Pacis.

Report of Committee.

We find by Examining into the state of Hinsdale by Reason of part of said Town being Taken into the Government of New York there ought to be Remitted to said Hinsdale the sum of Two pounds six Shillings Lawfull money and the sum of thirteen pounds sixteen shillings New Tenor of their Province Tax for the year 1765. & the sum of Two pounds fourteen shillings & sixpence Lawfull money & the sum of Eleven pounds thirteen shillings & six pence New Tenor for the year 1766; also the sum of three pounds Fourteen shillings & three pence Lawfull money for the year 1767. And beg leave to Report the same accordingly

Christo^r Toppan }
John Giddinge } Committee

Names of Inhabitants of Hinsdale, classed according to location, with amount of tax.

NAMES.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Thomas Holton,		10	3	2
Wm. Orvis		14	1	
Eleaz' Paterson		11	10	2
Samuel Stratton	1	3	6	2
Joseph Stebbins	1	7	8	2
Jacob Elmer		4	7	2
Jonathan Hunt	1	4	10	2
Capt. Orlando Bridgman		13		1
Orlando Bridgman, jr		3	9	1
John Bridgman		12	7	
Anos Tute		14	6	2
Daniel Sargeant		8	9	2
Rufus Sargeant		8	6	2
Samuel Orvis		3	7	
Wm. Orvis, jun		3	9	1
Samuel Friswell		1	6	
Reuben Friswell		4	4	3
Israel Rowley		3	7	
	£9	15	1	

The above are those Persons that live on the west side of Connecticut River within the Town of Hinsdale

Names of those who own land in Hinsdale on the West side of Connecticut River, who dwell in other Towns, for which they are rated.

NAMES.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Doct. Samuel Mattoon		1		
John Holton			9	
Lt. John Belding		7		
Aaron Burt		3	3	
Eben' Stratton			10	2
Hezekiah Stratton		1	3	
Doct. Medad Pomroy		1		
Doct. Bildad Andrews		1	6	
	£0	16	7	2

*Names of those that live y^e East side of Connecticut River
in Hinsdale.*

NAMES.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Isaac Barret		15	1	
Capt. Nathan Willard	1	2	9	
Wd. Lois Butler		3	4	2
Moses Rice		3	9	1
Benja. Barret		9	3	
Mrs. Abigail Hinsdale, alias Hall		15	3	
Daniel Shattuck		19	5	2
Peter Evans	1	9	11	2
Aaron Cooper		12	1	2
Eben ^r Cooper		6		2
Col. Wm. Symmes		3	11	2
En. Thos. Taylor	1	2	4	
Elijah Cooper		6		2
Benj ^a Barret, jun		5	5	
Oliver Barret		5	7	3
John Barret		4	1	
Thomas Rockwood		3	9	1
Daniel Jones, Esq.	1	2		2
Lt. John Evans	1	9	3	
Hesekean Elmore		12	10	2
Aaron Wright		7	2	3
Moses Balding		12	9	
Benj ^a Emmons		4	1	
Josiah Merrick		6	1	
Joseph Prentice		3	7	
Zur Evens		3	11	2
	£14	10	2	

Deduct one-third of Lt. John Evans Rate & one-third of Mrs. Abigail Hall Rate for Land they own on y^e West side of y^e River, it being 14,, 11, & add to y^e West side.

The following are those persons that live out of the Town of Hinsdale who own land for which they are rated.

Names of those who own Land on y^e East side who live in other Towns.

NAMES.	£.	S.	d.	Qr.
Lt. Joshua Lyman		1	9	
Simeon Lyman		1	9	
Seth Lyman		1	9	
Thomas Alexander		1	10	2
Aaron Burt		5		
Samuel Smith		1	6	
Elisha Smith		1	3	
Reuben Smith		1		
Joseph Stebbins			3	
Zebediah Stebbins			3	
David Wright			9	
Reuben Wright			9	
	£0	17	10	2

An Assessment of £26 Sterling the
West side of Connecticut River, paid
& the East side
8: 8 1-2 Loss.

£11,, 6,, 9,, 2.
14,, 13,, 1,, 2

Vote to remit Tax, &c.

Province of }
New Hampshire } Feb. 13th 1768 in the House of Representatives,

The house having taken under Consideration the Petition of Daniel Jones in behalf of the Town of Hinsdale in this Province Representing that part of said Town by his Majesty Late order had fallen into the Province of New York & thereby near half of the Polls & Rateable Estate of said Town were now in that Province by which the whole of the Province Tax fell upon that part of said Town which remained in this Province and praying that so much of the said Tax might be Remitted as would have been paid by the Poles & Estates so taken off from said Town and appointed a Com^{rs} to Examine the Affair find that for the cause aforesaid there ought to be remitted to said Town the sum of two pounds six shillings Lawfull money & thirteen pounds sixteen shillings, New Tenor bills of Cred^t of said province their Prov^{ce} Tax for the year 1765 the sum of two pounds fourteen shillings & six pence Lawfull money the sum of eleven pounds thirteen shill^{ls} six pence New Tenor for the year 1766, and the sum of three pounds fourteen shill^{ls} & three pence Lawful money for the year 1767 which having been considered therefore, Voted,

That the said several sums be allowed remitted & discounted with the said Town of Hinsdale of which the Treasurer of this Province is to take Due Notice & settle with the said Town accordingly which shall be allowed to him in his account with the Province.

And further as it appears that the proportion of Rateable Estate & Polls so taken off from said Town is two fifths therefore it is Consid-

ered & ordered that the Treasurer in issuing his future warrants Observe the same & conform the same accordingly till a new Proportion shall be made.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eodem Die,
Read & Concurr'd.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secy.

Assented,

J. WENTWORTH.

Petition for a new County.

15 Dec To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain
1767. General & Commander in Chief in and over His
Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c. and
to the Honorable His Majestys Council and House
of Representatives in General Court Assembled
on the 15th Day of Dec^r, Anno Domini 1767;

Humbly shews Josiah Willard, Benjamin Bellows, Daniel Jones, Samuel Chase Agents for the Towns of Hinsdale, Winchester, Richmond, Swanzey, Chesterfield, Westmoreland, Keene, Gilsum, Monadnock N^o 4, N^o 5 & N^o 6, Alestead, Walpole, Marlow, Charlestown, New Burnet, Claremont, Newport, Cornish, Croydon, Plainfield, Lebanon, Hanover, Canaan, & Lime that there are are about Eight Hundred Families in the abovementioned, Towns between the height of Land and Connecticut River in said Province who continually are at very great Expence in sending their Deeds to the publick Records for said Province, Prosecuti^g of suits at Common Law, proving of wills & settling intestate estates and many other inconveniences your Petitioners labour under by reason of their being so far distant from the several Courts & Offices proper to settle the same. Your Petitioners therefore in behalf of themselves and Constituents humbly pray that the Western part of said Province of New Hampshire adjoining to Connecticut River may be erected into a distinct County with such Priviledges & Immunities as shall be necessary for the well Regulating of the same, & that from Connecticut River the bounds of said County may be extended East to the Monadnock mountains & from y^e Line of the province North as far as the North Line of Lime or otherwise as your Excellency & Honors shall think fit, all which is Humbly submitted by

JOSIAH WILLARD
B. BELLOWES
SAM^l CHASE
DAN^l JONES.

*Petition of Doct. Josiah Pomroy for permission to inoculate
for small pox.*

To His Excellency, John Wentworth Esq. Captain Generall
& Governour in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of
New Hampshire and to the Honorable his Majestys Council.

The petition of Josiah Pomroy of Hatfield in the County of
Hampshire. Humbly shews and gives your Excellency and
Honors to be informed that your Petitioner is about to remove
to Hinsdale in said Province of New Hampshire with a view
to perform the Office of a surgeon and Physician in its sever-
all Branches and since Innoculation for the small pox has
been practised with so much success & with such advantage to
mankind, your petitioner is desirous of pursuing that Branch
of His Profession at Hinsdale aforesaid provided he can do it
under the protection of your Excellency & Honors, as Hinsdale
is a convenient place for the Purpose above mentioned and the
Inhabitants are willing to have it pursued Your petitioner
therefore Humbly prays that he may have Liberty granted him
by your Excellency and Honors to erect a Hospital for the
purpose of Innoculation under such restrictions as your Excel-
lency & Honors in Great Wisdom shall think proper. All
which is humbly submitted by your Excellency & Honors most
Obedt Humble Serv

JOSIAH POMROY.

[No date.]

HOLDERNESS.

[Holderness was first granted by charter, Oct. 10, 1751, to John Shep-
ard and others. Ed.]

Petition of Samuel Livermore for two rights of Land.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esquire Captain Gen-
eral, Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his
Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c.

The petition of Samuel Livermore of Portsmouth in the
Province aforesaid Esq^r Humbly sheweth. That in and by His
Majestys Grant or Charter of New Holderness in said Pro-
vince, There was given and Granted unto William Cammell
and William Garrow each of them a Right or share in said
Town under Certain Conditions in said Charter Mentioned,
which Conditions the said Cammell and Garrow Have Totally

Neglected to fulfill. Whereby They have Forfeited their said Rights or shares and his Majesty is become Resiezed thereof

Your Petitioner Therefore prays your Excellency would grant your Petitioner the said Two Rights or shares of Land under such Conditions & Quit Rents to His Majesty as your Excellency shall think fit.

And your Petitioner as he is in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c.

SAMUEL LIVERMORE.

Portsmouth June 18th 1770.

Deposition of Samuel Eaton.

The Deposition of Samuel Eaton of New Holderness who Testifies & Says that he had Lived in New Holderness about Five years and has been acquainted with said Town ever since the first settlement Thereof, and that William Cammell and William Garrow both being Grantees in said Township have not nor either of them Cultivated any land in said Town nor done any thing Towards the settlement of their Rights Therein or any part thereof and further this Deponent saith not.

Samuel Eaton.

Province of) May 30th 1770. The said Samuel Eaton person-
New Hampshire) ally appeared and made solemn Oath to the truth of
the foregoing Deposition, Taken In perpetuam Rei
Memoriam Before us.

John Newmarch) Justices of the
Reuben Kidder) peace, unis Quorum

Deposition of Thomas Vokes.

The Deposition of Thomas Vokes of New Holderness who Testifies and says that he has Lived at said New Holderness about Three years, and has been acquainted with said Town ever since the first settlement thereof and that William Cammell & William Garrow both being grantees in said township have not nor Either of them cultivated any land in said Town nor done anything towards the settlement of Their Rights Therein or any part Thereof, and Further this depo^t saith not

his
Thomas X Vokes
mark

Test. Rich^d Cutts Shannon.

Province of) May 31st 1770. The Said Thomas Vokes person-
New Hampshire) ally appeared and made Solemn Oath to the Truth
of the foregoing Deposition, Taken In Perpetuam
Reie memoriam. Before us,

John Newmarch) Just Peace
H. Wentworth) unis Quorum

Petition of Proprietors for extension of their grant.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General
Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majes-
tys Province of New Hampshire, In Council

The Petition of Hercules Mooney and divers others, Pro-
prietors of New Holderness. whose names are hereunto sub-
scribed, Most humbly shews :

That the said Proprietors have clear'd much land in the said
Township, and made considerable Improvement there, but
have not hitherto been able to comply strictly with the Terms
of the charter. That as the said Proprietors have nothing
more at Heart than to compleat the settlement of said Town,
and have already got twenty Families there and hope soon to
see it in a flourishing Situation. They most humbly pray your
Excellency (with advice of His Majestys Council) That such
further time may [be] given to your Petitioners and the rest
of the proprietors to compleat the said settlement as to you in
your great wisdom shall seem meet. And your Pet^{rs} as in
duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Hercules Mooney
John Shepard
Thomas Ellison
Archelaus Miles
Andrew Baker
William M Crillis

Jacob Shepard
Charles Bamford
Charles Bamford Jr
Francis Drew
Daniel Evans

Portsmouth 22^d Jan'y 1772.

Petition to send a Representative.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq.
New Hampshire } Capt General Governour & Commander
in Chief of said Province of New Hamp-
shire &c, &c.

The petition of the Subscribers being Freeholders & Inhab-
itants of New Holderness in the County of Stratford in said
province of New Hampshire, Humbly sheweth that no more
than four of the towns in said County send representatives to
the General Assembly & that none of those are situated in the
upper part of said County, That the upper part of said County
is increasing & has lat^{ly} increased. with Surprising rapidity
& that the Priviledge of sending representatives to the general
assembly always has been, & is Esteemed a great encourage-
ment to the inhabitants of this province, and as the said town
of New Holderness is likely to become the most considerable
town in that part of said county, your petitioners humbly pray
the said priviledge of sending a representative to the next

general assembly, may be extended to them, and your petitioners as in Duty bound, shall ever pray &c.

New Holderness, January 31st 1774.

Bryan Sweeney
William Ellit
Charles Cox, Jr
Will^m Blair
John Blair
William Blair Jr
John Heron
And^r Smyth
Tho^s Vokes
William Moor
Sam^l Wallis
Sam^l Livermore
Samuel Sheperd
Samuel Curry

Thomas Shepard
John Shaw
Joseph Hicks
Samuel Gains
Charles Cox
Charles Cox y^e 3^d
Joseph Cox
William Cox
Richard Shepard
Jacob Shepard
John Ennis
Joseph Shapard
William Pipar
John Shepard.

HOLLIS.

[This town was originally a part of Dunstable, being, as early as 1743 the West Parish of that town. It was incorporated 3 April, 1746. Ed.]

Petition for a Committee to locate the Meeting-house.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov^r &c The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Gen^l Court assembled &c.

The petition of Stephen Aims of Hollis in Behalf of himself and Sundry other of the Inhabitants of the said Town Humbly sheweth: That the Inhabitants of that part of Old Dunstable were by the Massachusetts about seven years ago Incorporated into a parrish taking about three miles more eastward than their town line now Runs:

That while under that Incorporation a meeting house place was agreed on justly situated as was then apprehended tho' a meeting house was not then Erected. The Settlement being new the additional Inhabitants settled as near that place for the sake of being in the middle of a town as they could:

That by the late Incorporations here about three miles of the East end of the Parish is taken to Dunstable which Brings the East line of Hollis within one mile & an half of where the meeting house place was agreed to as afores^e.

That the west line of the town is near upon Five miles to the West of s^d Place and some Inhabitants already settled to

the Out Side: And a great deal of Land there good for settlements that cannot be accomodated else where which as we apprehend Renders that place very unequall & unjust, Notwithstanding there is at present the major part of y^e Inhabitants accomodated to that place. there settling there occasioned by the apprehension of it being the middle of the town (tho Nothing in proportion to the selleable Land else where, who have voted that same place again for that use and have agreed to Raise a meeting house there next Wednesday that some of us your Peti^{rs} with some Others since in the whole applied to the select^s for a meeting Further to know the minds of the town and to Consider of the unreasonableness of its being sett in that place, but the Laws of this Province Requiring thirty Subscribers (our town Consisting of but about fifty might well be expected Impracticable) was refused and should the meeting House be now Raised and finished it would be very unequall much Discourage the settlement of the west part and as soon as any considerable number more is settled must be pulled Down. Many Changes in Hyways and we be Loaded with great Charge as well as leave Room for much Contention and disturbance.

Wherefore your Pete^{rs} most humbly pray that your Excellency & Hon^{rs} would consider of the premises, and appoint a Committee att the charge of this town or as your Excellency & Hon^{rs} shall order to view our situation and circumstances, and to order where the Said House shall be Erected and in y^e mean time to Direct that the Raising y^r House now Framed may be deferred till that can be done & your Peti^{rs} as in Duty Bound shall pray.

STEPHEN AMES.

In Council read &c.

recommended Aug. y^e 11. 1746.

R. Wibird, pro Sec^o

Province of } Wee the Subscribers Inhabitants of the town of Hol-
New Hamp^s shires do hereby desire & Impower Stephen Aims in our
names & behalf to peti^t the gov^r & Council or whole
Gen^l Court of the province of New Hamp^s & Represent our circum-
stances in erecting a meeting House in s^t Town in a place we apprehend unreasonable & pray for Relief in the Premises.

Dated at Holles y^e 5th of August 1746.

Joseph M Daniell
Stephen Ames
William Admes
Sam^l Parker
Moses Proctor
James Whiting
Samuell Douglass

Jasher Wyman
Isaac Farran
Jonathan Melven
John Melven
James M Daniell
Randel M Daniell

Petition of Samuel Cummings for protection against the Indians.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General, Governour and Commander in cheif in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire. The Hon^{le} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened the 2^d Day of April 1747.

The Humble Petition of Samuel Cummings of Hollis in said Province yeoman in behalf the said Town of Hollis, Shews, That the said Town is a Frontier Town & much Exposed to Danger from the Indian enemy and the number of Effective men belonging to the same not exceeding fifty who have all or most of them families to take care of & being mostly new Setlers have much Labour on their hands to subdue & cultivate their Lands &c; That their situation is such that they dare not venture to work without a guard & their work so great & disproportion'd to their strength Especially Including their necessary care of Defending themselves that they are unable to perform it without assistance which if they cannot have they must unavoidably neglect their Husbandry & spend their time in watching & warding & in that case many of their families must suffer for want of necessaries of Life;

That they are apprehensive of the Great charge the Government is now at & that the case of the said Town is doubtless the case of other Places in this Regard & therefore would desire nothing more than appears to them to be absolutely necessary which is. and for which they Humbly Pray that they may be allow'd a scout of ten or a dozen men for the Ensuing season till the Danger of the summer & fall of the year is over & the harvest past who may be a guard to the People of the Town while & where they may have occasion of working in places of Danger or to be otherways Employ'd for the safety of the People as the commanding officer or Officers of the Town should Direct and your petitioner shall as in duty bound in behalf of his constituents ever pray

SAM^l CUMMINGS

Province of) In the House of Representatives 14th
New Hampshire) May 1747.

Voted, That in answer to the annexed Petition the whole of the Lands in s^d Town of Hollis be taxed annually for four years next ensuing two Pence p^r acre to be apply'd for the support of the ministry & finishing y^r meeting House & that they be enabled to collect y^e same and that they have Liberty to bring a Bill accordingly

D. Peirce, Clr.

In the House of Representatives 16th May 1747

It is farther Voted, That y^e Inhabitants of s^t Holles make it appear by an account to be render'd annually to y^e Gen^l Assembly that the money has been apply'd for y^e uses abovesaid on pain of refunding y^e same

D. Pierce, Clr.

In council Eod^m Die,
read & concurrd,

Theodore Atkinson, Secry

Eod^m Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for a Tax on non-residents' lands.

Province of } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth
New Hampshire } Esq. Gov^r &c. The Hon^{ble} his Maj^{ty}
Council & House of Represent^{ves} in
Gen^l Assembly Convened March 31st 1747.

The petition of Sam^l Cumings in Behalf of the Town of Holles Humbly Sheweth:

That the s^t Town has Lately settled a minister and are now a building a meeting House for the publick worship of God there;

That the Setlers of s^t Town has but Lately entered thereon and altho a considerable progress in agriculture has been made (the only way we have for our support) yet find these Charges very burthensome;

That a Considerable part of the best Lands in s^t Town belong to nonresident prop^{rs} who make no Improvement;

That by the arduous begining the settlement & heavy charges by us already paid has greatly advanced their Lands, & they are still rising in Value, Equal as the Resident prop^{rs} tho the charges hitherto and for the future must Lye on y^e Setlers only unless we obtain the assistance of this Hon^{ble} Court;

Wherefore your Pet^r most humbly Prays that y^r Excellency and Hon^{rs} would take the premises into your consideration and grant the Whole of the Lands in s^t township may be taxed annually for five years next cuming two pence new tenor p acre to be apply'd for the support of the minister & finishing y^e meeting house and by Law enabling us to collect the same, & y^r Pet^{rs} as in Duty Bound shall pray &c.

SAMUELL CUMINGS.

In Council April 1st 1747.

read & Sent Down to the Hon^{ble} Hoase

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Prov. of New) In the House of Representatives

Hampshire) April 1st 1747.

Voted, That y^e Petitioner be heard on his Petition y^e third Day of y^e settling of y^e Gen^l Assembly after y^e first monday in May next and that y^e Petitioner at his own proper cost advertise y^e publick two or three weeks Successively between this day & y^e aforesaid third Day of y^e settling of y^e Gen^l Assembly in one of y^e publick News papers of y^e matter of y^e prayer of this Petition that every one may have opportunity to Shew cause if any they have why y^e Prayer of s^d Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce, Clr.

In Council April 2^d 1747.

Read & Concurr'd.

Sam^l Solly Pro Sec'y

Eodem Die,

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for dividing the Province into two Counties.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov^r &c, The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Convened at Ports^m y^e 9th of April 1754.

Wee the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the Province of New Hamp^{sh} on the Western side of Merrimack River, Would Humbly Remonstrate: That the Extent of the settlement of this Province is upwards of One Hundred miles westward from Portsmouth the Place where all the Courts are held. That the Difficulties of travill and Expence to and from Portsmouth on all County Emergencies Lays the western Inhabitants under Insuperable Disadvantage, and Occasions Great Delay to the Parties & Jurors who necessarily attend the courts of Judicature and tends Greatly to the Impoverishment of the Province: That we Humbly apprehend these Grievances might be in some good measure Redressed by Dividing the Province into two Countys, which also would be a means of a great Increase of Inhabitants & Improvements on the Western parts of this Government. Wherefore we humbly pray that your Excellency & Hon^{rs} wou'd take the premises into Consideration and Divide the Province into two Countys by such Dividing line and with such Powers and Authoritys as in your wisdom shall be Tho't best and as in Duty Bound shall pray

John Cumings
Zedekiah Drury
William Sanbo
Zechriah Lawrance
John Boynton
Samuel Jewet

Ezekel Jewet
Niclas French
Daniel Emerson
Francis Worcester
Josiah Conant
Francis Worcester, Jr

John Hale
 Saml Cummings
 Nathl Townsend
 Nathl Townsend, Jr
 Phineas Hardy
 Step Jewet
 William Tenney
 Benja Abbot
 Christopher Lovejoy
 Jacob Blanchard
 John Brown
 Francis Phelps
 John Boynton, Jr
 Samll Farley
 Jonathan Melvin
 Peter Powers
 Saml Goodhue
 Elias Smith
 Saml Brown
 Thos Nevins
 Abraham Leman
 Peter Wheeler
 Benja Blanchard, Jr
 Enoch Noyes
 Jonathan Lovejoy
 Edward Carter
 Whiteom Powers
 Stephen Aines

Stephen Powers
 William Adames
 Waldo Emerson
 Abraham Densmoor
 Saml Barret
 Benja Blanchard
 Nathaniel Blood
 Moses Smith
 Josiah Brown
 Benja Asten
 Thos Asten
 John Asten
 Moses Precter
 Samuel Leman
 Samuel Leman, Jr
 Stephen Hazelton
 Thos Woulley (?)
 Thomas Chamberlain
 Samuel Borge
 Peter Wheeler, Jr
 Stephen Harris
 Robt Colburn
 James Wheeler
 Jonathan Taylor
 William Colburn
 William Colburn Jr
 David Nervins
 John Goodhue

*Pine Hill (a part of Hollis) Petition relating to being set
 off from Hollis.*

May it please your Excellency; The Honorable Council &
 House of Representatives:

I am desir'd in behalf of a number of people at one Pine Hill in Dunstable, to beg the prayer of their petition may be granted Relating their being Set off to Hollis, & that Your Excellency & Honors may have a just Idea of the matter, Represent it as follows, Viz: about the year 1747 a Com^{tee} consisting of five persons were appointed by the Gov^t &c (Two of which belong'd to Dunstable) to view the Lands about Merry mac River, to see in what manner it was Best to Bound them in the Incorporation, & when they went on the Business, went no further westward than the Old Town of Dunstable. A com^{tee} from Hollis came down, & Desird the com^{tee} would go & view the situation of Hollis & Pine Hill, & urg'd it hard, but the com^{tee} could not be prevailed on to go any further that way (the opposition we judge was made by Dunstable) whether to Hinder an Impartial survey or not, we dont pretend to say: but in the conclusion we apprehend were greatly in-

jur'd by that Com^{tees} Determination, soon after Dunstable was Incorporated they got into partys about settling Mr Bird Each Court'd Pine Hills assistance, promising to vote them off to Holles as soon as the matter was settled; and so Pine Hill was fed with sugar Plums for a number of years till at length Dunstable cast off the mask & now appears in their True Colours which was in the first place to get us Joyn'd & Incorporated with them Tho' much to our disadvantage & Expectation when we settled there For under the Government of the Massachusetts we belonged to Holles, & in consequence of which we help'd Build a large meeting house, & it was set to accommodate us, & help't to settle a minister, not in the least Doubting but we should always belong their, & besides well knowing we could never be accommodated by being Join'd with Dunstable, but not withstanding all this; we were put to Dunstable by this committees Determination, (and all by reason we humbly conceive of their not viewing our situation,) we have ever since attended the worship of God at Holles & paid our Taxes to the minister there. Tho in the mean time we have ben call'd upon to pay ministerial Rates with Dunstable in a full proportion with the rest except some Trifling Abatements they made us in order to keep us quiet.

We know of no other Real Objection that Dunstable has to our going off. But Reducing them to too small a number to maintain the Gospel, but if their Inclinations may be Judg'd by their practice, it cant be tho't they have any Inclinations to settle a minister, as for other Taxes we shall not be against doing what is reasonable, but allowing it would hurt Dunstable, that ought not to hurt us, who when we settled there never Expected to have any Concerns with them as a Town, That for Dunstable, because they gain'd us in the Incorporation (and as we apprehend verry unjustly) now to hold us so much to our prejudice, we think we have just cause of complaint. Dunstable as it lys now Consists of about one hundred familys, and all we ask to be set off is but about Twelve. That After we are taken they will be more in number, & better able to support a minister, than many Towns in the Government, that dos it, That their opposition must arise from some other Quarter, to keep us as whips for one party or the other to Drive out every minister that comes their, for they are always Divided with Respect to these things, & which ever side we take must carry the day. All we want is, that the case may be Impartially considered, & beg the favour that a committee may be appointed who shall go up & view the places in their circumstances that a Sincere representation may be made.

SAM^l HOBART, attorney.

HOPKINTON.

[This town, originally called New Hopkinton, was granted by Massachusetts; it was incorporated January 11, 1765, under the administration of Gov. Benning Wentworth. Ed.]

Petition of New Hopkinton for an act of Incorporation.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General & Governour in Chief, in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and To the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council in the Province aforesaid:

The humble Petition of y^e Inhabitants of the Place, or Plantation called New Hopkinton in the Province aforesaid, Whose names are here unto Subscribed, Sheweth.

That whereas your humble Petitioners are very desirous to have Gospel Order & a Gospel Minister regularly settled among us & maintained: & to have proper Orders and in our secular affairs, so that we may live and act in all our affairs as becomes a Christian Society, and that every one among us may be Obliged to bear his equal part according to his Ability of y^e charges of supporting such Regulations: which we cannot attain to under our present Circumstances: We therefore humbly pray that your Excellency & your Honors would grant us Relief by in corporating into a Township that Tract of Land commonly known by y^e name of N 5 of y^e Line of Towns granted, & laid out by order of the General Court of y^e Province of y^e Massachusetts Bay, or New Hopkinton, included within the following bounds viz. Beginning at the southeasterly Corner at a Norway Pine tree, with stones about it spotted on four sides and marked on the Easterly side with the Letter R and on y^e westerly side with y^e letter H. Then running West, five degrees south six miles, to a Hemlock tree with stones about it, spotted on four sides and marked on y^e Easterly side with y^e letter H, & y^e Figure 5 & on y^e Westerly side with y^e figure 6. Then running North, fourteen Deg. West six miles, to a white Oak tree with stones about it spotted on four sides & marked with y^e figure 6 on y^e Westerly side & with y^e numeral Letter V on y^e Easterly side; Then running East five Deg. North, three miles, to a stake in a Boggy meadow spotted on four sides and stones about it: Then running North, fourteen deg. West about 130 rods to a River on which Almsbury men built a saw mill, to a heap of stones in the middle of the River a little way below the said Saw mill, where it also joins to the southwesterly Corner of Contoocook. Then running east fourteen deg. north by a part of Contoocook, three miles to a stake & stones, y^e stake spotted on four sides, where it also joins to y^e Northwesterly Corner

of Rumford so called. Then running south fourteen Deg. East by Rumford about Six miles & three quarters, to y^e first mentioned Bound containing about 36 square miles and by putting us into a Regular method to call Town meetings legally; so that we may enjoy y^e Powers & Priviledges which other Towns in this Province enjoy. For which goodness your humble Petitioners for your Excellency, & Honours as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Dated at New Hopkinton, October 27th 1757.

Samuel Pudney
Joseph Easman
Aron Kimball
Joseph Pudney
Enoch Easman
John Putney
Daniel Anis (?)
Caleb Burbank
Peter How
Jonathan How

Joseph Ordway
Matthew Standle
Abraham Colbe
David Woodwell
Thomas Easman
Joseph Easman, Jr
John Chadwick
John Ordway
John Burbank

Petition of New Hopkinton for power to lay a tax on 4-5th of the Land &c 1757.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Captain General & Governour in Chief, in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire; To the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council; & To the Hon^{ble} Representatives of the severall Towns in this Province, in General Court assembled.

The humble petition of the Inhabitants of the Place, or Plantation called New Hopkinton in the Province aforesaid, whose Names are here unto subscribed, sheweth:

That whereas your humble Petitioners have ventured our Lives, & been at a great Expence to settle cultivate and defend a new plantation far in y^e Wilderness & much Exposed to y^e Indian Salvages, & have been destitute of Town & Gospel Priviledges hitherto; and when at any Time we have had y^e Gospel preached to us for a little while at a time, it has been chiefly at our own Expense, with but very little help from y^e Non-resident Proprietors: and yet y^e value of their Land is greatly increased by our living here, & defending it: and at y^e same time, y^e Burden, Hazzard and charge of settling a New Plantation lies upon us chiefly while they have a greater share in y^e Benefit than in the charge of said settlement; which Things we think to be something hard, but are not able to redress, under our present circumstances; Therefore being Encouraged by your goodness & Paternal care Extended of Late to other new settlements or Plantations we humbly apply ourselves

to your Excellency, & your Honours praying that you will take our case into your wise Consideration & remedy our difficulties by impowering us to lay a Tax upon four fifths of y^r Land in our begun Plantation (so much of it as ought to be taxed to publick charges) of three pence upon an Acre; or so much as you in your great wisdom shall think to be necessary & Sufficient to defray y^r Charges of settling & maintaining a gospel minister, building a House for y^r publick Worship of God, & other necessary incident charges (The one fifth part of said Plantation being reserved by y^e gentlemen Purchasers of John Tufton Mason Esq. free from charge till improved) Also your humble Petitioners pray that your Excellency & your Honours would provide some Effectual Method to inable us to collect y^r said Tax as well from nonresident Proprietors who live in other Provinces, as from resident Proprietors, & who live in this Province: For which Goodness, your humble Petitioners for your Excellency & your Honours, as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated at New Hopkinton, October 27th 1757.

Samuel Pudney
Joseph Eastman
Aron Kimball
Daniel Anis
Joseph Pudney
John Putney
Enoch Eastman
Caleb Burbank
Peter How
Jonathan How

Joseph Ordway
Matthew Standle
Abraham Colbe
David Woodwell
Thomas Eastman
Joseph Eastman Jr
John Chadwick
John Ordway
John Burbank.

Petition relative to Province Tax.

To the great General Court of the Province of New Hampshire.

We whose names are hereunto Subscribed Inhabitants of New Hopkinton in this Province humbly inform & represent to the Hon^{ble} General Court that whereas we understand that an order was sent here sometime last summer or Fall, for a Province Tax, directed to the selectmen of New Hopkinton, and was carried back again because there were no such persons to leave it with. And not because we are disobedient to Authority or unwilling to do our Part to defray the Publick charges of the Province.

But we are under two difficulties especially: One is with Respect to those persons who are settled in that part of New Hopkinton which is claimed by Bow: For an account was taken of their estates with the rest within New Hopkinton

claim, pursuant to an Order of the General Court, And last year the Province Tax was proportioned to them with the rest of New Hopkinton, & paid by all together and that in season—and they are willing to pay so still, if that may be allowed, & accepted for them: & if the General court will be pleased to join them with the rest of New Hopkinton, at least to pay taxes with the rest, And if they should not be joined with the rest to pay the Province tax, we humbly conceive that the sum required of us would be a heavier burden upon the rest than was designed by the court, when the Tax for New Hopkinton was assigned. The other difficulty is our want of power to chuse selectmen to assess, & a collector to collect the Tax, & to oblige every one to pay their respective Parts of said tax.

If the Hon^{ble} General Court will be pleased to take these things into their Consideration and to apply a Remedy. In regard of those that live within that part of New Hopkinton claimed by Bow, either by joining them with the rest, so that they shall be obliged to pay their part of Taxes as well as the rest, or by Separating them from the rest, so as to have no concern with the rest about paying taxes And then abating from the rest so much of the tax as those would have paid, if they had all paid together, as they did last year. Also if the court will be pleased to enable us to assess & collect the Tax either by appointing & empowering selectmen, & a collector or giving us Power to chuse them, we are ready to pay all due obedience.

And if the Treasurer sends his order again for the whole Tax which he sent for last summer or for so much as is our due to pay Exclusive of those that live in Bow claim, if they should be separated from the rest in regard of paying Taxes we will pay it to the Treasurer with all possible speed.

And we had rather pay our part of Taxes Every year yearly than to have the Taxes of several years to pay at once.

The names of those Persons the account of whose Estates was taken with the rest tho' they lived or owned land in that part of New Hopkinton claimed by Bow, are as follows.

The widow Susanna Kimball
Abel Kimball
Timothy Kimball
Timothy Clement
Eliphalet Colby
Green French
John Chadwick
Abraham Kimball
Jeremiah Kimball
James Kimball
Moses Straw
Jonathan Straw
John Eastman

William Peters
Hezekiah Foster
Jeremiah Kimball, Jr
Thomas Jewell
Reuben Kimball
Daniel Watson
Obadiah Peery
Joshua Bailey
John Kimball
John Jewell
Parker Flanders
Isaac Colby &
Thomas Hoit.

The Reasons why an account was taken of the Estates of those that lived or owned land in that part of New Hopkinton claimed by Bow are as Follows:

1st Because the order sent by the General Court for taking account of Estates was left by the Sherriff that brought it, with one of the men that lived in Bow claimed.

2^d Because one of the men that were impowered by the selectmen of Boscawen to take account of the Estates in New Hopkinton was one of those men.

3th Because it was their own desire.

4th Because Canterbury selectmen who took account of Estates in Rumford extended their accounts no further than Rumford Claim.

We are your Excellencys & your Honours' Obedient & humble Servants.

Joseph Pudney
John Putney
Abraham Colbe
Matthew Standle
Enoch Eastman
Peter How
Jotham How
John Gage
Isaac George
Thomas Eastman
Joseph Eastman
Caleb Burbank
David Woodwell
Zebediah Watson
Ezekiel Straw

John Burbank
Jacob Straw
John Blasdell
Isaac Chandler
Jeremiah Kimball
Wid. Susanna Kimball
Joshua Bayley
Abel Kimball
Timothy Kimball
Moses Hill
John Chadwick
James Kimball
Moses Straw
John Easman.

New Hopkinton April 30, 1763

In Council June 3^d 1763.

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of) In the house of Representatives June 8th 1763. This
New Hampshire) petition being read, Voted.

That the prayer thereof be granted so far as that the petition^{rs} be allowed to Bring In a Bill Impowering them to collect the province Tax & obliging those persons mentioned as claimed by Bow to pay with them till there shall be a new proportion made for collecting thereof.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council June 8th 1763,

Read & concurred.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry

Petition for power to sell common land.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor & Commander in Chief in & of His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Hon. His Majestys Council & General Assembly for & of said province :

The petition of us the Subscribers. Proprietors & Inhabitants of New Hopkinton so called in said Province Humbly Sheweth :

That a part of our said Township is covered by the claims of the proprietors of Bow. That several of our said Proprietors living within said claim. have already purchased of said proprietors of Bow their claims within said Cover. that we suppose it communicative Justice that the whole charge of Purchasing said Land as also the Charge of law suits respecting and relating to said Lands be defreyed by our said propriety in equal shares That by selling so much of our common & undivided Land in said Town would be easiest to us for that purpose, That we suppose ourselves unable Validly so to do, and therefore pray your Excellency & Honours to favour & enable us with an act whereby we may be so capacitated, or such other act or acts conducible to said end as your Excellency & Honours in your great Wisdom shall see meet—And your Petitioners shall as in Duty bound ever pray.

Hopkinton Feb'y S, 1762.

Matthew Stanley

Enoch Easman

David Woodwell

Joseph Easman

Joseph Putney

Ezekiel Straw

Jotham How

John Burbank

Isaac Chandler, Jr.

Joseph Chandler

Peter How

Jeremiah Kimball

Obadiah Parry

Timothy Clement

John Chadwick

Jonathan Straw

John Easman

Tim^r Kimball.

New Hopkinton. February S^d 1762.

In Council January 19th 1763,

Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of) In the House of Representatives
New Hampshire. } Jan^y 19th 1763.

This petition being read, Voted.

That the petitioners be heard thereon the first Wednesday In March next if the General Assembly be then sitting if not then on the Second day of their sitting next after, & that they cause the Substance of this petition & order of Court thereon to be inserted three weeks successively In one of the Boston news papers, & In the New Hampshire Gazette, that any persons concerned may appear and shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

A. Clarkson. Clerk.

In Council Eod^m Die.

Read & Concurr'd.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Province of) In the house of Representatives
New Hampsr) June 3^d 1763.

This petition being read. Voted,

That the prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioners have liberty to bring In a bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson Clerk.

In Council Eodem Die,

Read & concurred.

T. Atkinson Jr. Secy

Petition of sundry persons for an Act of Incorporation.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General and Governour in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire And to the Honourable his Majestys Council for this Province :

The petition of the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton (so called) including the Inhabitants of that part of Bow which covers a part of said New Hopkinton in the province aforesaid humbly *sheweth* :

That whereas your humble Petitioners are and have been ever since we first began to settle this place, under great Inconveniences and Difficulties for want of Town Powers & Privileges whereby the settlement of this Place has been much retarded & We therefore humbly pray your Excellency and your Honours to take our case into your wise consideration, and to Incorporate into a Town, with the Powers and Privileges of other Towns in this province, That tract of Land which was granted by the gentlemen owners of the Right of John Tufton Mason Esqr to Messrs. Henry Millen, Thomas Walker & Thomas Millen, and their associates, commonly called New Hopkinton; & contained within the same Bounds & Limits; including that part of Bow which covers a part of said Tract of Land, yet not affecting any man's Property.

For which Goodness your humble Petitioners for your Excellency and your Honours, as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated at New Hopkinton aforesaid this fourth day of June, Anno Domini 1764.

Moses Emerson
Ezra Hoyt
Jonathan Straw
Joseph Judkins
Roland Judkins
Hezekiah Foster
Peter Sargent
Isaac Colby
Benj^a Jewett
John Jewett

Pelatiah Watson
Moses Jewett
William Eastman
Joseph Pudney
Joseph Eastman
Nathaniel Clement
Caleb Burbank
James Kimball
John Chadwick
John Gage

Jacob Straw
 Joshua Bayley
 Joseph Chandler
 Benjamin Merrill
 Samuel Kimball
 Moses Gould
 Samuel Putney
 David Woodwell
 Mark Jewett
 Abraham Colbee
 Moses Hills
 William Peters
 Matthew Standle

John Putney
 Enoch Eastman
 Abel Kimball
 Peter How
 Jotham How
 Timothy Farnum
 Isaac Chandler
 Ezekiel Straw
 Timothy Kimball
 Abraham Kimball
 Richard Merrill
 John Eastman
 Thomas Easman

Petition for Incorporation.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq. Captain General, and Governour in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire: To the Honourable his Majesty's Council, and To the Honourable Assembly of this Province, in General Court convened:

The Petition of the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton (so called) including the Inhabitants of that part of Bow which covers a part of said New Hopkinton, in the Province aforesaid, humbly *sheweth*:

That whereas your humble Petitioners are about to present a Petition to his Excellency the Governour & to the Honourable his Majestys Council to incorporate into a Town, with the Powers & Privileges of other Towns in the Province that Tract of Land commonly called New Hopkinton contained within the same Bounds & Limits which it was contained in when granted by the gentlemen owners of the rights of John Tufton Mason Esqr., to Messrs Henry Millen, Thomas Walker & Thomas Millen & their associates, including that part of Bow which covers a part of said New Hopkinton, without affecting any man's property: We, therefore, your humble Petitioners pray your Excellency & your Honours to annex that part of Bow which covers a part of New Hopkinton unto the said New Hopkinton, or that Tract of Land which commonly is known by that name in such a manner as is above expressed (if there be need of the Act & Authority of the General Court in the case) so that it may be corporated with the rest into a Town (if his Excellency with the Council should see cause to grant our Petition for a Corporation) that so we may be in a Capacity to raise, assess & collect Taxes; both our part of the Province Tax, & also, to Defray necessary charges among ourselves in a regular & effectual manner;

For which Goodness, your humble petitioners, for your Excellency & your Honours as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated at New Hopkinton
aforesaid, this fourth Day of
June, Anno Domini 1764.

Joseph Chandler
John Eastman
Benjamin Merrill
Samuel Kimball
Thomas Eastman
Moses Gould
Moses Emerson
Ezra Hoyt
Jonathan Straw
Joseph Judkins
Richard Judkins
Hezekiah Foster
Moses Jewett
William Eastman
Joseph Pudney
Joseph Eastman
Nathaniel Clement
Caleb Burbank
James Kimball
John Chadwick
John Gage
Jacob Straw
Joshua Bayley

Samuel Putney
David Woodwell
Peter Sargent
Benj. Jewett
Mark Jewett
Abraham Colbee
Moses Hills
William Peters
Matthew Standie
John Putney
Enoch Eastman
Abel Kimball
Peter How
Jotham How
Timothy Farnum
Isaac Chandler
Ezekiel Straw
Timothy Kimball
Abraham Kimball
Richard Merrill
Isaac Colby
John Jewett
Pelatiah Watson

Prov. of New Hamp^r In Council, Jan^y 8th 1765,
Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.
Theo^r Atkinson Jr. Secy.

Province of) In the House of Representatives, Jan^y 9th 1765,
New Hamp^r)

This Petition being read,

Voted, That the Prayer thereof be granted & that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council eodem die

Read & concurred

Th^o Atkinson, jun. Secy

Reasons for said Petition.

Reasons humbly to urge and intreat a speedy Proceedure upon the petitions preferred to the Honourable General Court by the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton without the formality of a public Notification.

1st That all differences between Bow Claimers & New Hopkinton Proprietors, or Inhabitants about Property are adjusted so far that the claimers of that Part of Bow which interferes with New Hopkinton sell or settle said Land without opposition or Molestation. The Gentlemen who purchased Mr. Masons Patent having given to New Hopkinton Proprietors out of their fifth Part of said New Hopkinton, acre for acre for the land claimed by Bow Proprietors in said New Hopkinton.

2^d The settlers on Bow Claim in said New Hopkinton are included in

the Petitions, and most if not all of them have signed them, which shows that it is their Desire that the prayer thereof may be granted.

3^d The settlers upon Bow claim in s^d New Hopkinton are incorporated with it by the District Act.

4th Some urgent circumstances seem to necessitate a speedy Remedy, as

(1st) The out-standing Province Tax for the years 1762, 1763 & 1764, for which the Treasurer says he must soon issue Extents unless a Remedy be provided and some Favour and Indulgence be granted to the people of New Hopkinton And also arrears toward the support of the Gospel in said New Hopkinton both together amounting to more than £3000 Old Tenor, which if required all of it to be paid in a short time in this time of Scarcity of Money would be a Burden very heavy upon & discouraging to that People: Therefore a speedy Remedy seems necessary. But if it be delayed for a formal Notification is not likely to be done before next May or June.

(2) Tho' an Act was made, more than a year ago to empower the Inhabitants of New Hopkinton &c to assess & collect the Province Tax, yet they never heard of the said Act: and consequently could not act in Conformity to it.

(3) The said Act did not furnish said people with Power to raise, assess and collect any arrear Tax either for the Province or to support of the Gospel or any way to promote the settlement of the place;

But if the Hon^{ble} Court think, upon the whole, that the Prayer of the Petitions cannot be granted without a formal, publick, Notification, They are humbly intreated, by their most humble and Obedient servant, in Behalf of the Petitioners to Compassionate the case of the Petitioners (who dont at present know of their impending Difficulties) and to provide a speedy Remedy for them, either by an Act in addition to the district Act already made, or any other way that they shall think best, so that the Inhabitants may be invested with all the Powers & Priviledges of a Town; and that the officers who shall be chosen in said district to assess & to collect necessary Taxes there, may be empowered to Exert & Execute their respective offices about any arrears of former Taxes, as well as about future Taxes.

And where as said Inhabitants are in arrears of the Province Tax for the year 1762, 1763, & 1764 it is humbly submitted to the wise consideration of the hon^{ble} Court whether it would not be too heavy a Burden upon the People to require them to pay it all in one year or in two years, besides the proper Taxes of those years, Or whether they may not be indulged now, (seeing they had not Power to assess and Collect those Taxes in the times when they ought to have been assessed & collected) so far as to assess & collect the arrear Tax for 1762 with the Tax for 1763, and the arrear Tax for 1763 with the tax for 1764, and the arrear tax for 1764 with the tax for 1765 so that they may have no more than two years Province Tax, to pay in a year till those arrears shall be fully paid & that orders may be given to the Province Treasurer accordingly: It is also humbly requested that if the District act should be enforced by an additional act, The Regulation made thereby may continue in Force till the General Assembly shall order otherwise.

Also, it is humbly requested (Because sundry of the Men mentioned in the District Act, as Settlers in the Township of Bow, either never lived there at all, but only had Land there which they proposed to settle on, & did not or else removed to some other Place since) That instead of mentioning those Persons by Name, there may be a clause which shall include all that part of Bow which covers a part of New Hopkinton, with all the persons who do now or shall inhabit the same during the continuance of this act.

Petition for a tax on non-residents.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, and Governour in Chief in, and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire. To the honourable, his Majestys Council And to the honourable General Assembly of the Province of New Hampshire, in General Court assembled.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Hopkinton in this Province of New Hampshire humbly sheweth. That whereas we your humble Petitioners have been at great cost & charge in settling a New Township, and settling the Gospel and maintaining it among us. Paying the Arrears of the Province Tax for three years which was not paid in proper season because we had no Power during that time to assess & Collect it (paying said arrears in three years after said tax ought to have been paid besides the proper tax of those years, in a Time of great scarcity of money. And in building an house for the public worship of God, with but a very little Help from the nonresident Proprietors & owners of Land in the Town) beside the additional Difficulties & Dangers which many of us suffered by living in a New Township at the outside of all the Towns in the province, in the Time of the late War and settling a Gospel Minister in that Time: And by what we have done & suffered in these Times the Land of Nonresident Proprietors and owners, which lies in the Town has been greatly increased in Value with very little if any Cost to them; and we your humble Petitioners cannot but think that they ought in Reason & Equity to bear part of the charges of what has increased the Value of their land as well as to enjoy the Benefit. We therefore your humble Petitioners humbly and earnestly pray, That your Excellency & your Honours would take our case into your wise & compassionate Consideration and in Order to making us some Relief under our heavy Burdens if you think proper would pass an act to lay a tax of one Copper (or one half penny sterling) per acre or so much as you shall think proper upon all the uncultivated Land in this town belonging to non resident proprietors & Owners for the space of five years or so long as you shall think proper. Except what land in the Town is Owed by the Masonian Proprietors and so long as it is owned by them: the appropriated Rights for the Ministry and school and what is owned by the minister of the Town.

And if your Excellency and your Honours shall be pleased to Grant our Petition in laying a Tax upon the Land aforesaid. We Humbly pray also that you would make Effectual Provision for us to assess said tax upon & to collect it from said non resident Proprietors & Owners of Land in the said town of Hopkinton. For which Goodness your humble Petitioners

for your Excellency & your Honours as in Duty bound shall Ever pray.

Dated at Hopkinton Aforesaid

October 1st 1767.

Voted, That Ens. Jonathan Straw prefer this Petition to the General Court.

Names of the Subscribers.

Gideon Gould	Tim ^r Clement
Hezekiah Foster	James Scales
Abraham Brown	Samuel Putney
Ruben Kimball	John Putney
W ^o Clements	Mark Jewett
Timothy Farnham	Moses Gould
John Gage	David Eaton
Joseph Standly	Abnar Gorden
Stephen Hoyt	Moses Eastman
Thomas Clark	Benj. Rogers
Moses Hills	Aaron Greeley
Ezekiel <i>Stanley</i> ?	Jotham How
Peter How	Samuel Hoyt
John Hill	Sam Brackenbury
Moses Smith	James Smith
Ezekiel Straw	David How
Jotham How	Enoch Eastman
Isaac Colby	Jeremy French
Moses Straw	William Stevens
Isaac Chandler	Benjamin Merrill
Joseph Chandler	James Kimball
Eliphalet Colby	Joseph Putney
John Jewet Jr	John Burbank
Moses Sawver	Moses Jewett
Tho Jewell	Abel Kimball
Joseph Judkins	Polard Judkins
Nathanael Merrell	John Blasdell
Elias Gould	William Davis
Richard Merrill	Jeremiah Fowler
William Peters	Joseph Eastman
Benj. Wiggin	Caleb Burbank
Timothy Kimball	David Woodwell
Green French	John Eastman
Jo-hua Bayley	Thor Eastman
Zebulon Adams	Samuel Stanley
Nathaniel Clement	Ezra Hoyt.

Voted, That the petitioners have leave to Bring in a Bill for Laying a tax of one half penny sterling pr acre yearly for five years on all the Lands of Resident and non resident Proprietors except that part which was taken off from the town of Bow

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council March 16th 1768

The above Vote of the House read & Concurred.

Geo. King, Dep^y Secry.

Province of N^h Feby 11th 1768. In the house of Representatives New Hampshire, upon Reading this Petition voted that the Petitioners cause the substance of this Petition to be printed in the New Hampshire Gazette as soon as may be & to continue it there for three weeks successively with notice that any person who has

any objection against the prayer thereof may be heard thereon on the third day of the setting of the General Assembly next after the Tenth of March next

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council 13th February 1768.

Read & Concurr'd.

Geor. King Dep. Secy.

Province of } In the House of Representatives March 15th 1768. The
New Hamps } within Petition being Considered and the petitioners
and such as appeared to make objections heard there-
on, Voted. ———

HUDSON—formerly NOTTINGHAM WEST.

[Incorporated 5 July, 1746, having previous to 1741 belonged to Massachusetts. Ed.]

Petitioners for a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Capt General and comander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England,

May it please your Excellency. According to your Excellencies direction, I hereby signifie to your Excellency that the whole Number of Proprietors and Inhabitants in the Towns of Nottingham and Litchfield within the Limits we petitioned for are forty five; and those who are willing and desirous to be erected into a Township or Parish (according to your Excellencies pleasure) have hereunto Set their names.

Nottingham.

John Taylor
Eleazer Cumings
Nathan Cross
John Mash
William Cumings
Roger Chase
John Robinson
Edward Spaulding
James Barret
Moses Barret
John Marshall
John Parker
Josiah Cumings
Benjamin Greeley
Thomas Mash
David Lawrance

Litchfield.

Nathaniel Hills
Ebenezer Spaulding
Daniel Hills
Joseph Hills
Smith Hills
John Hopkinson
Henry Hills
James Hills
Joseph Pollard
Joseph Kedder
Joseph Kedder Jr
Robert Melven
Nathl Hills, Jr
John Huston
Ezekiel Hills
Henry Hills, Jr
Stephen Spaulding

If your Excellency will be pleased to erect us into a Town or Parish agreeable to our Petition you will exceedingly oblige your most Dutifull and most obedient Petitioners

Litchfield.

NATH^l HILLS } In the Name of some
of the Proprietors
& Inhabitants of the
Towns of Nottingham
& Litchfield.

Petition for Town privileges.

Prov. N. H. } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq.
Governour, The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Gen^l Court Assembled at Portsmouth the 20th days of May 1743.

The Peti^{on} of us the Subscribers Inhabitants & freeholders of the District called Nottingham Humbly sheweth:

That in the year 1732. Wee were on application made to the Gen^l Court of the Massachusetts Province sett off from the town of Dunstable a Distinct and separte township with the Powers & Priveledges of a Town & thereby enjoyed & Required to Procure and settle a Learned orthodox minister amongst us & make provision for his Comfortable & Hon^{ble} support, which in the year 1737 the town fulfilled but so it Happened contrary to our Knowledge or Expectation, The Running of the Line Between the Governments according to his Majestys Late Determination has taken considerable part of our Town into this Province. by means whereof, we are without the Power to manage our necessary affairs as a Body corporate & more especially to Raise and collect money for the support of the Rev^d Nathaniel Merrill our Minister, according to our Contract with him:

That before the Running of the line assessments was made for the Ministers Rates Many Delinquents (on the Running the line) declared against paying, and continue to neglect it, tho no complaint of being over Rated.

That thereby the minister has suffered, & long been kept out of his Just Due.

That we Have not since the running of that Line been able in any Equal way to Raise his yearly Sallery.

That so much of our Improvements being left in the Massachusetts and our circumstances so Low Renders it of necessity for all the Inhabitants in our District to assist in payment, or it will be Impracticable for us to Subsist as a Society and

many difficult circumstances attending these things presses us Humbly to Supplicate, and In as much as this Hon^{ble} Court has been pleased to look upon us as Subjects of the Government by Taxing us to the Support of it, which we Readily & dutifully comply with, we doubt not but Wee shall be owned as the children of the Same & obtain the Priviledges & protection other Inhabitants Enjoy :

Wherefore we most Humbly pray your Excellency & Hon^{rs} to take the premises into your consideration & Invest the s^d District of Nottingham (that is to say that part of Nottingham that Lyes in the province of New Hampshire) with the Powers & priveledges of a Town & enable us to Levy & collect the former Delinquent Rates or make some speciall Law that shall Relieve us in the Premises as in your great Wisdom shall be tho^t best, & as In duty bound shall pray.

John Butler
Henry Baldwin
Thomas Colburn
Joseph Winn
Henry Baldwin Jr
Joseph Hamblit
Tho^s Pollard
John Pollard
Joseph Blodget
George Burnas
Joseph Snow

Hezekiah Hamblet
Samuel Grele
William Hamblet
Samuel Grele
Zacheus Woodwell
Sam^l Huston
Joseph Blodget
Jonathan Hardy
John Marsh
Ezekiel Chase

Petition for a Parish.

To his Excellency Bening Wintworth Esq. Captine General & commander in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England.

Your Excellency with the rest of the Honourable Court may well remember that we your humble Petitioners a considerable time since put in a petition to y^e General Court for a distinct town or parish which the Honourable Court shall judge most convenient & we still remain earnest in our desires that s^d petition may have a hearing, and that it may be acted upon when your Excellency with the rest of the Court shall think convenient. the reasons why wee desire to be a distinct town or parish are contained in our former Petition :

We live at such a distance from our respective meetings, that we look'd upon it that we were obliged to maintain y^e Gospel amongst us, which we have done for almost three years, and from the encouragement that we had from time to time we have lived in hopes that we should be freed from paying taxes elsewhere, but since the late act made by y^e Hon-

ourable Court to impower certain districts to raise money for y^e support of y^e ministry & other charges & our respective district have had meetings, & have raised large sums of money, not only for y^e present year but for several years past as appears by their votes. And we look upon it as a Great hardship that we should be obliged to pay s^t rate for three reasons (Viz)

1st We live at such a distance from y^e Places of Publick worship in our respective districts, that we cannot attend y^e worship of God with our Families there.

2^d We have had a minister with us and are obliged to him for so much money from day to day, therefore we look upon it a hardship to pay taxes elsewhere.

3^d And there are some of us that have moved into these districts long since y^e money was due that they now rate us for, this appears to be a hardship to such of us.

Therefore we your humble petitioners pray that your Excellency with y^e others of y^e Honourable Court would take these reasons into your consideration, & free us from these heavy burthens laid upon us, we have many of us borne a heavy burthen for a long time & we fear its growing heavier for we find none amongst us in our respective districts that will move it so much as with one of their fingers. Therefore as you are our Fathers we humbly apply ourselves to you for relief, & if in your great Wisdom think it not convenient as yet to erect us into a town, we beg that we may be acquitted from paying the taxes that are served upon us, & that we may have the Priviledges of other Parishes or districts, till such times as we may be further answered in our request that so we may able further to maintain y^e Gospel amongst us; these things we humbly ask & rest your humble Petitioners.

Dated at the District called Nottingham

September y^e 19th 1743.

P. S. We that live in the district called Litchfield would acquaint your Excellency that at y^e time of their settling a minister in this district that we entered our dissents but they proseded & settled a minister Contrary to our opinion, & we think it a hardship, that we should be Obliged to pay taxes to a Minister that is settled upon such a foundation that he is—which is Presbyterianism. This is Contrary to what we was ever acquainted with contrary to our opinion in matters of religion and Contrary to our minds to set under him as such.

Joseph Kidder
Josiah Culings
Joseph Kidder Jr
Robert Dorah
Charles Dorah
George Burroughs Jr

William Cumings
William Campbell
Leonard Cummings
Edward Spalding
Ebenezer Spalding
Nathan Cross

Nathaniel Hills
 John Marshall
 James Hills
 Eleazer Cummings
 Roger Chase
 John Robinson
 William Taylor
 Henry Hills
 Ezekiel Hills
 Joseph Pollard
 Henry Hills, Jr

Robert Melven
 Stephen Spaulding
 Josiah Burroughs
 James Barret
 Moses Barret
 David Lawrence
 Nathaniel Hills Jr
 John Bradbury
 Bradbury Morgan
 Josiah Dutton
 John Huston

Petition of selectmen for a hearing.

Prov. of } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov^r
 N. Hamp } &c, The Hon^{ble} his Majestys Councill & House
 of Repres^{ts} in Gen^l Assembly to be Convened
 The 5th of March 1747.

The subscribers selectmen of the Town of Nottingham West. would most humbly represent in Answer to the Petition of Josiah Cumings & Others Inhabitants of Nottingham West afores^d On the 2^d day of December 1747, Prefered to this Hon^{ble} Court praying, That they might be Discharged both poles and estates from paying any thing towards the Support of the Ministry at s^d Nottingham so long as they attended Elsewhere &c. For the Reasons therein mentioned.

That notwithstanding the Order of the Hon^{ble} Court for a hearing on s^d Petition had fully pass'd on y^e Eleventh day of December last past, and the Hearing on s^d Peti^{on} was granted to be the second day of the sitting of the assembly after the tenth day of January then next ensuing, and that the s^d Gen^l Assembly was adjourned unto the 23^d day of this Instant February to be the first day of their sitting after the tenth of January afores^d, accordingly the 24th of this same February had they set as we Expected was the day appointed for the Hearing afores^d.

Yett the Peti^{on}s (for ends to us unknown) did not serve the selectmen or either of them with a Copy of the s^d Peti^{on} or order of Court thereon nor any other ways Notifie them thereof untill the 17th day of this Instant February which left no more than six days for the Selectmen to Assemble Notifie and hold a town meeting & if the Town should think fitt to make answer & Shew Cause &c. and within the same six days to gett to Portsmouth (Fifty miles & upwards) and by this the Neglect of the Peti^{on}s Rendered it Imposible for the Town whose proper Right we conceive it was to make answer at the s^d Expected time, But we the select have proceeded & Notified a meeting of the s^d town to be held at Nottingham on the 7th day of March

next; To see if the town will Impower an agent to answer to the s^t petiⁿ if there should then be occasion, Since which we are Informed that the s^t Court is adjourned from the s^c 23^d day of February unto the Eighth day of March next the day by the aforesaid order of Court appointed for the hearing afores^d, And should the town proceed to appoint an Agent to make Answer in their Behalf yet it will be Impossible for them at this difficult season in one night, (the only time we have) to gett to Portsmth and attend at the Hearing afores^d Wherefore we pray that in case the Petiⁿ should pursue their Petiⁿ for a hearing that it may be continued such Reasonable time that the town of Nottingham may appear, if they shall at their meeting Desire it to shew cause why the prayer of the Petⁿ should not be granted &c.

Nottingham, West, February 29th. 1747.

JOHN MARSH	} Selectmen
JOHN MARSHALL	
SAMUEL GRELE	
JAMES WESON	

Nottingham Dis. Jan^y 30th 1745-6

We the Subscribers Inhabitents of the s^t Distrect do hear by Sickknife our desier to be incorporated into a Distinct Town according to the Delineation which we now Lay in and shall for that prosecute any thing which may be expediant in the affair.

Joseph Butler	Joshua Hamblet
Joseph Caldwell. sn	Joseph Hamblet Jr
James Gibson	John Butler
John Mitchell	Thomas Gage
John Huey	Hezekiah Hamblet
Joseph Caldwell. Jr	John Butler Jr
John Caldwell	Joseph Wright
John Baldwin	Samuell Jewet
Robert Evens	Phinehas Spanels
Amos Richardson	Benj Frost
Ebenezer Dakins	James Warner
his	Onesephorus Marsh
Thomas X Richardson	James Marsh
mark	John Hamblet
Daniel Dugless	Samuell Butler
Daniel Merrill	Eph ^m Cumings
Sam Merrill	Daniel Simonds
Josiah Hamblet	Ithbre Merrill
his	Thomas Burns
Hugh O Richardson	Samuel Gould
mark	Richardson Cumings
Jacob Butler	

May ye 12th 1746.

On the above s^t Day a number of the propriators and other inhabitants of the District of Litchfield being mett to gather Did then nominate and appoynt Jacob Hildreth and James Carr to measure the line of Litchfield on the east side of meremack river from the uper end to the lower end thereof.

Prv of } Londonderry May y^e 13th 1746.
New Hamp }

Jacob Hildreth and James Karr personally appearing made oath that they would take a true measure of the district of Litchfield upon the east side of Meremack river, sworn before

John Goffe, Just Peace.

This may signifie the Earnest desire of us subscribers inhabitants of Nottingham within the Province of the Massachusetts Bay whose interests in Lands lay considerably within the Destrict of Noting^m in New Hampshire

That the destrict may be continued to gether as a Town without the addition of any part of Litchfield. that we may attend the publick worship of God where we have formerly Enjoyed it Being intirely cut of from all Privilege of injoying it other ways.

Capt Rob^t Fletcher
Daniel Fletcher,
Zacheus Spaulding
Lt. Samuel Gould
John Woodward
Robert Fletcher, jun.

Noting^m April 4th 1746.

May y^e 16^h 1746.

We the subscribers the within mentioned being chosen to measure the Distance of way from the upper end of the District of Litchfield to the Lower end, whereas according to our measure not allowing any for sway of chain, we make it eight miles and one half.

Jacob Hildreth
James Karr.

Vote on the question of Incorporation.

Province of) The District of Nottingham being assembled to-
New Hampshire } gether at the meeting house this tenth Day of March
1745-6. By virtue of a Warrant Issued out by two of
his Majesties Justices of the Peace unus Quorum: they past sundry
votes, first made choice of Mr Thomas Gage Moderator, Secondly it
was put to Vote to see if the District will signifie by a vote that they
will be Incorporated into a Distinct town and it past in the firmitive.

John Hamblet yea
John Hue yea
Joseph Calwell yea
Ephraim Cumings yea
Joseph Wright yea
James Gibson yea
John Mitchell yea
Samuel Jewate yea
Benjamin Frost yea
Thomas Burns yea
Thomas Richardson yea
Hezekiah Hamblet yea
Capt Henry Baldwin yea
Phinehas Spaulding yea
Hugh Richardson yea
Daniel Merrill yea

Benjamin Tyng yea
Abel Merrill yea
Robert Nevens yea
Joseph Hamblet jr yea
Samuel Butler yea
Thomas Gage yea
Josiah Hamblet yea
Daniel Dugless yea
John Baldwin yea
Onesephorus Marsh yea
Jacob Butler yea
Ebenezer Daken yea
Joseph Gould yea
John Butler yea
James Wason yea
Joseph Caldwell jr yea

In the firmitive.

Thomas Poillard nay
 James Barret nay
 Robert Glaser nay
 Joseph Blodget nay
 Eleazer Cumings nay
 John Marshall nay
 Jonathan Hardy nay
 Lieut Joseph Winn nay
 Jeremiah Blodget nay
 Det Ezekiel Chase nay
 Samuel Grele Jr. nay

Lieut Joseph Snow nay
 John Marsh nay
 George Burns nay
 Ensⁿ William Cumings nay
 Samuel Burbank nay
 Samuel Grele nay
 Capt Thomas Colburn nay
 Joseph Winn, Jr nay
 John Marshall Jr nay
 Samuel Hustone nay

In the Negative.

Thirdly it was put to vote to see if the District will split the Town partly North and south And the Vote Past in the negative that article in the warrant to set of Hills farm was Dismissed by a Vote—fifthly the District chose Mr Thomas Gage Mr Ephraim Cumings and Mr John Butler as a committee to treat with the Courts Committee and Represent the circumstances of the District to them.

A true Copy from the District Book,
 as attest,

Samuel Grele
 District Clerk.

Petition of John Marsh for a land tax to build a meeting-house.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, To the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened 14th July 1747.

The petition of John Marsh of Nottingham West, of said Province, yeoman, in behalf of y^e Inhabitants of said Nottingham West as well as on his own Humbly Shews:

That by y^e late settlement of y^e Boundary Line between this & y^e Province of y^e Massachusetts Bay, a number of y^e Ablest of y^e Inhabitants of s^d Nottingham West are taken of from us & so consequently we must loose their assistance under y^e present heavy Burthen that is upon us, and that by s^d settlement of s^d Line y^e present Situation of our Meeting house is such that it is altogether useless unto us as a Place for y^e publick Worship of God & therefore must be obliged to build a New one and that your Petitioners live exposed to y^e Indians whereby we are much taken off from our Daily Labour: Your Petitioner therefore most Humbly prays your Excellency & Honours that you wou'd in your great Clemency be pleased to Subject by an act all y^e lands in s^d Nottingham to tax of two pence an acre P^a annum for five years next ensuing to help us in our present distress'd circumstances

to build a New Meeting House, purchase a Parsonage & more comfortably to support our present Rev^d Pastor & to lay a Foundation for y^e future Support of y^e Gospel Ministry among us and y^e Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray

JOHN MARSH.

In Council, July the 15th 1747.

Read & Ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House.

Theod^r Atkinson Secry.

Prov of New
Hampshire }

In the House of Representatives 15th July 1747

Voted, That y^e Petitioners be heard on their Petitions y^e Second Day of y^e setting of y^e Gen^l Assembly After y^e first of Sep^r Next & that y^e Petitioners at their Own Cost Advertise y^e publick two or three Weeks Successively in y^e post Boy or Evening Post News papers so called of y^e Prayer of s^d Petition that so any one may shew Cause if any there be why y^e Prayer of s^d Petition should not be granted.

D. Pierce. Clk.

In Council July 15th 1747.

The above Vote read & Concurr.

Theod^r Atkinson Secry.

Eod^a Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Prov of New
Hampshire }

In the House of Representatives 10th March 1747,

Voted, That y^e Prayer of y^e within Petition be granted for one penny Pr Acre & that y^e peti^r have Liberty to bring a Bill Accordingly.

D. Pierce Clr.

Eod^a Die. In Council
read & Concurr.

Theod^r Atkinson, Secry

March 11th

Consented to,

B. WENTWORTH.

Prov of
New Hamp^r }

June y^e 8th 1747.

The town of Nottingham west made choice of Mr John Marsh to apply to Courts to get the Lands Belonging to this Town laid under a tax.

A true Copy as attest

Samuel Grele, Town Clerk

Petition for Nottingham W. to be included in the West division of Counties.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq & the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Councill & house of Representatives in Gen^l Assembly Convened at Ports^m the 9th of April 1754.

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of Nottingham West in the province of New Hamp^e would humbly represent that inas- much as a large number of the Inhabitants of this province have Remonstrated the necessity of dividing this Province into two Countys by such dividing line as shall be thought best & in as much as this town of Nottingham West lys at such a

great distance not less than fifty miles from Portsmouth & adjoining to merrimack river, & shall always be accommodated with the western County & shall be under the utter most inconvenience, if we have always to travel to the Eastermost part of the Province for County Business, therefore we most Humbly pray that when your Excellency & Hon^r shall see meet to Erect this Province into two Countys that the Dividing Line may Include this Town in the west Division & Incorporated to do duties & Receive Priviledges there & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Ezekiel Chase
 Thomas Colburn
 Joseph Winn
 Stephen Chase
 Samuel Grele
 Sam^r Grele, Jr
 Ebenezer Blodget
 Benjamin Taylor
 William Taylor
 William Cumings
 Ebenezer Cumings
 John Marshall
 Josiah Dutton
 Daniel Marshall
 Henry Hills
 Ezekiel Grele
 Joseph Pollard
 Samuel Marsh
 James Hills
 Jeremiah Hill
 Jon^s Blodget
 Jon^s Hardy
 Sam^r Page
 John Pollard
 Ebenezer Pollard
 Tho^s Pollard, Jr
 Moses Grele
 Isaac Waldron
 David Dow
 Joseph Blodget Jr
 Samuel Hills
 Josiah Cumings

John Marsh
 Edward Spalding
 Thomas Lenard
 Josep Lovel
 Nathan Cross
 Peter Cross
 Eleazer Cumings
 Eleazer Cumings Jr
 Thomas Keney
 Abraham Page
 Timothy Emerson
 Joseph Winn Jr
 Benj^r Winn
 Benjamin Whittemore
 Jeremiah Blodget
 James Blodget
 Joseph Blodget
 David Lawrence
 Stephen Chase, Jr
 Henery Chase
 George Burns
 Ebenezer Dakin
 Samuel Merrill
 Nathaniel Merrill
 Daniel Merrill
 Samuel Merrill, Jr
 Thomas Brown
 Samuel Burbank
 Jonathan Hardy
 Jonathan Blodget
 James Wason

Petition of Nottingham relating to fish in the Merrimack river.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor &c of the Province of New Hamp^r The Honourable his Majestys Council and house of Representatives of said Province.

We the Subscribers being Inhabitants of Nottingham West & Dunstable do Humbly request of your Excellency & Hon^r

to make some addition to the act relating Restraining the Fishing in Merrymac river as the Preservation of the Fish is of Considerable Consequence to us. we would be glad therefore That the utmost care might be Taken of them.

We beg Leave to Suggest to your Excellency & Hon^{rs} that the Constant Fishing at the Falls with Pots weares Scoop or dip nets should be restrained as well as Constant Fishing with Seaves and that all obstructions may be Removed out of the River the days Fishing is Prohibited and that proper water courses may be left in the Dams that are made Cross the Streams that Run into Merrymac river where Fish commonly pass and also that the Towns be directed to choose Proper Persons to see the act is duly Observed and all offenders Punished and your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

Dated at Nottingham West, June y 4th 1764.

Nath^l Merrill
Josiah Duston
Amos Kinney
Nathaniel Davis
Jose Pollard
Edward Spaulding
Daniel Marshall
Ezekiel Hillis
Joseph Kelly
Thomas Pollard
Jeremiah Blodget
Reuben Spaulding
Noah Lovewell
Samuel Marsh
Oliver Hills
Thomas Marsh
Ezekiel Grele
Benjamin Dutton
Ebenezer Pollard
Thomas Campbell
Ebenezer Blodet
Robert Stuard

Henry Hills
David Larance
Ebenezer Cumings
Josiah Cumings
Ben^t Kidder
Thomas Lancey
Tho^s Clark
Benj^t Marchall
Samuel Pollard
John Bly
Amos Pollard
Benj^t Winn
John Huey
Henry Huey
Jn^r Caldwell Jr
Eph^r Cumings
Peter Cumings
Samuel Page
Ephraim Cumings, Jr
David Cumings
Peter Cross

Province of) In the House of Representatives June 14th 1764, This New Hamp^r } being petition Read. Ordered.

That the petitioners be heard thereon the Second day of the sitting of the general Assembly after the first day of August next And that the petitioners at their own Cost cause the Substance of this petition & this order of Court thereon to be advertised three weeks successively In the New Hampshire Gazette, that any persons concerned therein may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In council June 16th 1764.

Read & concurr'd,

T. Atkinson Jr. Secry.

Another Petition relating to the same.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov^r &^o of the
Province of New Hamp^{ts} the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council
& house of Representatives of s^t Province

We the Subscribers Petitioners being Inhabitants of this
Province Humbly Sheweth that we greatly rejoyce that your
Excellency and Honours have taken the Preservation of the
Fish in Merrimack River into Consideration and have pass'd
an act to Restrain y^e Practice of Fishing in s^t River Con-
stantly. But as we apprehend the act as it now stands is not
Quite Sufficient to answer the Salutary Ends propos'd to be
done by s^t Act.

We would therefore desire your Excellency and honours to
take the premises under consideration & by some additional
act to restrain the fishing with Dip or scoop nets at the falls
in s^t River where fish are usually taken with those nets, and
also that all obstructions may be removed from y^e passes in
Falls where fish usually pass, so as those places may be clear
on the Days fish are allowed to pass, and that fish may not be
hindered by any ways or means whatsoever from having a
free course up y^e River, on the day prohibited to fish, and that
the Obstructions may be removed that are now in Sundrey
streams that run into Merrimac River Where fish commonly
pass or Sufficient courses left for the fish to pass during the
Term of their Running both up and Down such Streams, and we
Further beg Leave to Suggest to your Excellency and Hon^{rs}
that the Towns adjacent to the River may be Directed to
choose proper Persons to see that the act is Observed and all
offenders duly Punished.

June 4th 1764.

Stephen Chase
Thomas Hamblet
John Bloget
Jonathan Bloget
Ebenezer Bloget
James Caldwell
John Glover
David Merrill
Stephen Morss
Rowland Rideout
Benj. Rideout
Benj. Smith
Abraham Bailey
Thomas Colburn
George Burns, Jr
Andrew Seavey
Justis Daken
William Cox
Edward Cox
Benj. French
Seth Johnson

Joseph Winn
Abiathan Winn
Jeremiah Bloget
Ebenezer Pollard
Ezekiel Chase
Sam^l Greele
Benjamin Messer
Ezekiel Chase, Jr
Henry Deves?
Joseph Lovel
Tho^s Blanchard, Jr
Tho^s French
Nathan Winn
Nathanael Merrill
Nath Merrill Jr
Jonathan Lund
William Lund
Phinehas Lund
James Taylor
Nehemiah Lovewell
Nathaniel Greele

Province of }
New Hampst } In the House of Representatives June 14th 1764.

This Petition being read, Ordered. That the petitioners be heard thereon the second Day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the first Day of Aug^r next & that the petitioners at there own Cost, cause y^e substance of this petition & this order of Court thereon to be advertised three weeks successively In the New Hampshire Gazettee that any persons concerned therein may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

Depositions.

(1) Of Thomas Pollard

Thomas Pollard of Lawfull age Testifyeth and saith that he was at the house of Mr John Marshes in Nottingham West upon the second day of Oct^r Last past & he saw Capt Joseph Killey and John Chase and Joshua Beadel and Amos Pollard and sundry other persons there and he heard Amos Pollard say their is nothing to be done here at this time Let us go home upon his s^d Pollard saying so hear Capt Killey tell John Chase and Joshua Beadel to take said Amos out of the house & put him into the Brook upon which said Chase & Beadel fasned upon said Amos Pollard and Draged him out of the house. and Capt Killey followed them out of the House with a large stick and wip fastened to the End of it, and brok the state or stick of said wip all to peaces about him said Amos. his head the said Chase holding him fast while said Killey beat him said Amos. And After he broke his own stick he twicht A large walking staff out of the hand of deacon Greeley and splintered it all to peaces about said Amos' head & body till said Amos Cryed murder and After upon Examining the head & body of said Amos there was large Gashes in his head & and further saith not

And the Deponent further saith that these facts was not committed upon a muster day.

his
Thomas X Pollard.
mark

(2) Of Benjamin Marshall.

Benjamin Marshall of Lawfull Age Testifieth and. that he was at the hous of Mr John Marsh of Nottingham West at or near the 2^d day of Oct^r Last past and that he came with Capt Joseph Killey to Said House aforesaid and that as soon as Capt Killey came to the house of the said Marshes there was a grate number of parsons their and as soon as he came in he said to the Company present that if any man Gave him the lye to Day he would Hors wip them and their arose a dispute between one Davise and Killey Upon which Capt. Davis aserted something said Killey said was a lye & said Killey threatened him by holding and shaking his whip over his head. Then Amos Pollard who was present said com Daviss let us go along for their will be nothing don here to Day. upon which Capt Killey ordered John Chase to take s^d Pollard out of dores, upon which said Chase fasned upon him and drew him out of dores, upon which I told said Chase let Pollard go. dont burn your own fingers, upon which Chase let him go, then said Killey ordered said Chase to take poliard and duck him in the brook & he would bear him out in so doing upon which said Chase & Joshua Beadel fasned him

again and Capt Killey followed out and struck said Pollard several times with the butt of his horse whip which broke and then he went to deacon Greeley and took his walking staff out of his hand and struck s^d Pollard over his head and broke the staff all to peaces while the said Chase & Beadel held said Pollard, and further saith not. And the Dep^t farther saith, these facts was not on a muster day.

Benj^a Marchall.

Province of } Litchfield March the 2^d 1765.
New Hampshire }

Parsonally appeared the within and above named Thomas Pollard Benjamin Marchall and after due caution & cairfull examination maid solemn oath to the Truth of the foregoing Deposition by them Respectively signed, and that it is the Truth concerning the things they Relate too which affidavits were taken at the Request of a Number of the Inhabitants of Nottingham west to be in perpetuam Res memorandum.

Before us,

John Goffe } Quorum
James Underwood } unis

JAFFREY—formerly MONADNOCK, No. 3.

[This town, formerly known as Monadnock, No. 3, was incorporated in 1773, by the name of Jaffrey, for Hon. George Jaffrey, of Portsmouth. ED.]

To Mr Josiah Willard, Sir.

This may certify that it is the Desire of Each of us Hereafter named that you would Draw or cause to be Drawn a Suitable Petition for the Incorporation of our town and Lay the same Before the Govenor and Counsel with our names annex thereto.

Monadnock N^o 3,

March 14. 1771.

Eli Morse
Jos. Greenwood
Sam^l Twitchel
W^m Greenwood
Jos. Adams
Asa Norcross
Josiah Greenwood
Elias Stone
David Morse
John Knowlton
Elias Knowlton
Reuben Morse
Daniel Morse
John Barnstead

Benj^a Mason
Moses Adams
John Wright
Moses Mason
Ebenezer Twitchel
Thomas Morse
John Muzzy
William Beal
Benj^a Lerner
Robert Muzzey
Jos. Twitchel
Ezra Twitchel
Levi Partridge
Thades Mason

We are generally of the mind to have our town named Troy.

JEFFERSON—formerly DARTMOUTH.

[This town was first granted under the name of Dartmouth, Oct. 3, 1765; re-granted June 26, 1772, and first settled about the year 1775. Ed.]

Petition to extend the time for making settlement.

Province of New Hampshire :

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Governor & Commander in Chief and The Honorable His Majestys Council.

The Petition of Josiah Willard & others humbly sheweth.

That your Petitioner having been favor'd with the Grant & Charter of the Township of Dartmouth sometime since which said Charter specifies the first Period of settlement of twenty Families to be in the month of December 1773 : but w^h they apprehend was a clerical Error in filling up the Charter and ought to have been as originally intended December 1775, a compliance with the first Term being utterly impracticable in that distant part of the province. They would therefore humbly beg the s^t Mistake may be rectified & the Time for bringing on the first twenty Settlers be Extended to the month of December 1775. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall over pray.

JOSIAH WILLARD

Portsmouth 11th Febr'y, 1774.

VOLUME IV.

KINGSTON TO NEW BOSTON.

KINGSTON.

[This town was incorporated, August 5. 1694, under the administration of Lieutenant-Governor John Usher: and comprehended what now forms the towns of East Kingston, Fremont, and Sandown. Ed.]

Original grant or Charter.

William and Mary By the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland King and Queen Defend' of the Faith &c.

To all people To whom these presents shall come greeting Know ye that we of our Special Grace Certain Knowledge and mere motion for the due Encouragement of settling a new plantation by and with the advice and Consent of our Council have given & Granted and by these presents as far as in us Lies Do give and Grant unto our Beloved Subjects,

James Prescott Senior
Thomas Philbrook Jr.
Samuel Colcord
Sam^r Dearborn
Jacob Garland
Ebenezer Webster
Benjamin Sandburn
Daniel Moulton and

Isaac Godfrey
Gershom Elkins
Thomas Webster
William Godfrey
John Mason
Nathaniel Sandburn
John Moulton
Francis Toule

and Several others of their Majestys Loving Subjects that Inhabit or shall inhabit within the said Grant within our province of New Hampshire all that Tract of Land to begin seven miles Westward of the meeting house now Standing in Hampton from thence to run a Due course West and By North Ten miles into the Country for its Breadth four miles, Northerly from the Head point of the West Line from the said meeting house and Southerly within Three miles of the Northermost side of merrimack river and that the same be a town Corporated by the name of Kings Town to the persons above named or other of their Majestys Subjects that do and shall for ever, and we do by these presents give and grant unto the said men and Inhabitants of our said Town of Kingstown and to such others that shall hereafter inhabit all and every the streets and Lanes & Highways within the said Town for the publick use and service of the men and Inhabitants thereof & Travellers there Together with full power License and authority to the said men and Inhabitants and such as shall inhabit within the said Town forever to establish, appoint Order & direct the establishing making Laying out ordering amending and Repairing of all streets Lanes Highways Ferries places and Bridges in and throughout the said Town necessary needful and convenient for the men & Inhabitants of the said Town & for all Travellers and Passengers there provided always that our said License to as above granted for the establishing making & Laying out of such Lanes Highways, Fences places and Bridges be not extended nor Construed to Extend to the taking away of any person or persons

Rights or property without his or their consent or By Some Law of our said province To have & to hold and Enjoy all and Singular the premises as aforesaid to the said men & Inhabitants or those that shall inhabit the said Town of Kingstown and their Successors forever Rendering and paying therefor to us our Heirs and Successors or to such other officer or officers as shall be appointed to Receive the same yearly the annual Quitt Rent or acknowledgement of one pepper Corn in the said Town on the 25th of October yearly forever and for the Better order Rule & Government of our Said Town We do by these presents Grant for us our heirs and successors unto the said men & Inhabitants or those that shall inhabit the said town that yearly and every year upon the first Tuesday in march forever They the said men and Inhabitants and such as shall inhabit the said Town shall elect and chuse by the Major part of them Two sufficient and able men Householdors of the said Town to be Constables for the year Ensuing which said men so chosen and elected shall be presented to the next Quarter sessions of the peace to be held for said province there to take the accustomed oaths appointed By Law for the Execution of their offices under such penalties as the Law in our said province shall direct upon Refusal or neglect therein and We Do by these presents Grant for us our heirs and Successors unto the said persons and Inhabitants and such as shall inhabit in said town. That yearly and Every year upon the first Tuesday in March for ever, They the said men and Inhabitants or the Major part of them shall elect and chuse Three Inhabitants and Householders within our said Town To be Overseers of the poor & Highways or select-men of our said Town for the year Ensuing with such powers, Priviledges and Authoritys as any Overseers or select men within our said Province have and enjoy or ought to have and Enjoy.

In Testimony whereof we have caused the seal of our Said province to be hereunto affixed. Witness John Usher Esq. our Lieutenant Governour and commander in Chief of our said Province at our Town of New Castle the 6th Day of August in the sixth year of our Reign annoque Domini 1694.

JOHN USHER Lt Gov^r

William Bedford Depy Secry.

Copy Exam^d

Theodore Atkinson, Secry

Province of New Hampshire March 1st 1743

Entred and Recorded According to the Original.

Pr Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Copy Exam^d

Pr

George Jaffrey, Clerk.

Petition for the re-settling of Kingston.

To His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq. Governour and Commander in Chiefe of Her Majesties Provinces of the Massachusetts and New Hampshire. and to the Honourable the counsell Now sitting att Portsmouth this 2^d of May 1705.

The Humble petition of Thomas Philbrick and Jonathan Sanborn in the Name and behalf of severall others who have a desire to settell Kingstowne. Humbly Sheweth.

That whereas the inhabitants that was settelled att say^d Kings town formerly did for some pretences or other withdraw and Remove in a disorderly way from said Kingstown as we Now find greatly to the Damage of the then Inhabitants. We having taken a list of the names of those that have entered ther names to goe and settell there in the Fall of the year We humbly pray that we may Have orders for the Resettling of s^d Kingstown accordingly. and your poor petitioners as wee are bound for a Blessing of God upon your proceeding shall for Ever pray.

THOMAS PHILBRICK
JONA SANBORN

Upon reading the petition of the Inhabitants of Kingstown praying, to whom ordered that the petitioners have liberty to return thither at Michalmas provided they be not less than thirty familys that they lay out in the centre of this place a forty acre lott for y^r parsonage and that they settle an able orthodox minister within three years next Cum- ing & they have leave to renew their Grant with these conditions.

Read in Councill the 2^d

May and approved off

Cha. Story Secretary.

Prov. N. Hampsh

Voted, That the town of Kingston be Excused from sending a Representative and paying any part of y^r Province Charge for the present year. Provided they assist the scouts with pilots at their own Charge whenever Required.

May 9th pr Order of y^r House

Samu^l Keais, Clerk.

Consented to by the Councill

Chas. Story, Secretary.

Petition to be clear of public charges.

To His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq Capt Generall & Governor in Cheife in & Over Her Maj^{ties} Provinces off the Massachusetts & New Hampsh^r &c And to the Honourable the Council Now sitting at Portsm^o together with the Representatives in General Assembly.

The Humble Petition of the Poore Inhabitants of the Town- ship of Kings Town within said Province of New Hampshire Sheweth.

Whereas the Inhabitants of said Towne have hitherto on acc^t of the Warr been clear'd from all Publick charge and the Enemy now insults us as much as Ever: And theire now being a representative required of us. Our circumstances being in a very low Condition and the Enemy like to be as trouble some as Ever they have been—

Yo^r Petitioners therefore Humbly prays yo^r Excell. & the Hon^{able} the Councill that wee may as yett stand on the Es-

tablishm^t wee did before till such time as yo^r Petitioners are better able wee humbly Submitt our selves to w^t yo^r Excell. & the Hon^{ble} the Council shall Judge meet.

Soc prays yo^r Humble Petitioners

JON^s SANBURN.

In behalfe of y^e town.

Upon reading this petition the Council Declares, that they are very sensible of the good services of the inhabitants of Kings town and the Hardshippes they labour under in and shall use all methods for their Encouragem^t

And therefore Recommend to the Representatives the prayer of being Eased of the present tax and of the attendance of a Representative Dureing the present distress untill further Order

In Council 8th May 1712.

Cha: Story Secretary.

Petition to be discharged from cost of Road, &c.

To the Honourable John Wentworth Esq L^d Gov^r & to the Honourable The Council & House of Representatives now sitting in Gen^l Assem. at Ports^m for his Maj^{ty} province of N. Hamp^r

The petition of Sam^l Easman representative for y^e Town of Kings town in behalf of said Town sheweth.

That the Hon^{ble} The Court of Gen^l Q^r sessions of the peace held at Ports^m The first day of march last were pleased to make an ord^r that the town of Kingstown afores^d should pay half the Charge of Laying out a high road Through y^e town of Hampton w^{ch} your petitioner does humbly conceive is not to be supported or favoured by any laws or customs whatsoever but that the said Ord^r of sessions is opposite to an act of This prov. & past in May 1719. Entitled an act about high ways &c

Whereupon yo^r petitioners do humbly pray that the said Order be made null & void as to the part of Kingston afores^d & that the said Town be discharged of that ord^r & yo^r petitioners shall Ever pray as in Duty bound.

SAM^l EASMAN

JON^s SANBURN.

Voted, That y^e Case between Hamton & Kings town be brought on again to y^e next q^r sessions for a second hearing between town & town and that Each town be notified accordingly

Hen. Sherburne. Clk Asst

In Coun

Eod^m die Concurr^d.

R. Waldron.

Petition for abatement of Province tax.

To the Honabell John Wintworth Esq our Lev^t Governor and Comander In Chefe In and Over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire In New England and to your honours of His Majestyes Councill, and to those gentlemen of y^e house of Representatives now Convened together att our Generall Cortt held att Portsmouth in said province this 18th day of May 1725.

The Humbell address of y^e subscribers to these presents being the selectt men for Kingstown In said provence for this yeare, Humbly Sheweth.

That Whereas wee make bold to make this our humbell de-seire and Request unto your hon^r yett we hope you will pardon our Boldness In so doing and that your hon^r would Consider our sad Surcomstances that wee live under by living In a fronteer town and so small a town and so Exposed to y^e Indian Enemy and our Rates are so hevey upon us that we cannot tell how to pay it, therefor we humbly pray your honnours to Consider us and to medigatt sumthing of our provence Rates & may it please your hon^r wee have Latly lost Sundrey men of Considerable E-states In our town some by the Enemy and some by Sixness whare by we are the more unabell to pay so much as we have done and we are so much y^e more weaker as to men In our going out to our worke dayly and we are so Exposed to danger of y^e enemy dayly, that wee hope In your wisdom you will Consider us as to the thing wee pray to your hon^r for and likewise that wee might not have any of our men Impressed from us be cause we Lay so Exposed to y^e Enemys and Every day whare ever wee goe to work we are as it ware upon duty.

All this things Considered by your honnours If your hon^r see cause to help us as to those things above mentioned wee shall Return your hon^r Humbell thanks as in duty we are bound &

Kingstown May
y^e 17th 1725.

JOSEPH FIFIELD	} Selectmen for Kingstown
EBENEZER STEVENS	
TRISTRAM SANBORN	
JOSEPH GRELE	
JOSEPH SLEEPER	

Petition for a township.

Wee the subscribers of Kingstown haveing gone through many difficulties & Great & Long & Tedious Wars & very Ex-

pensive & trouble some, so great that the greatest part of the inhabitants of our Town were forced to sell their lands to support their families—But through the goodness of God we are yet preserv'd & much Increased & have many sons to settle in the world we have not land for them because our inheritances are in y^r hands of strangers, & inasmuch as y^r neighbouring towns about us have had a considerable priviledge by their new township to them granted wee also desire an Inheritance among our Brethren & Therefore present our Humble Request to his Excellency the Governor & Councill & for a Town ship as followeth. beginning att Ammoskeag Falls & to extend five miles up the River & five miles down y^e River & Ten miles wide five on each side & in so doing y^r Honn^r will very much oblige us his Majestys subjects.

Mr Ward Clark
 Ebenezer Stevens
 Capt Jonathan Sanborn
 John Fifield
 Joseph Fifield
 Moses Elkins
 Joseph Clough
 Ebenezer Webster
 Joseph Grele
 Samuel Tucker
 Benjamin French
 Jeremy Webster
 John Darlin'
 Phinehas Batchelder
 Samuel Welch
 Ichabod Clough
 Ebenezer Eastman
 Joseph Eastman
 Thom^s Eastman
 Elisha Sweat
 Ebenezer Collins
 Theophilus Clough
 Ebenezer Sleeper
 Richard Clifford
 Benjamin Wadleigh
 Samuel Robie
 Nathan Batchelder
 Elisha Windslow
 John Ladd
 John Webster Ter^r
 Ralph Blasdel
 John Young
 Samuel Lock
 Jacob Merrill
 Theophilus Griffin
 Joseph Young
 Joseph Bean
 Jeremiah Quimbee

Elijah Blasdel
 Samuel Bean, Jr
 Moses Rowel
 Thomas Webster, Jr
 William Bussel
 John Webster Jr
 Cornelius Clough
 Thomas Dente
 Elias Renas
 Benjamin Webster
 Samuel Judkins
 Joseph Sleeper
 Jonathan Chote
 Samuel Webster
 Samuel Colcord
 Aaron Sleeper, Jr
 Isaac Griffin
 Benjamin Sweat
 Benjamin Eastman
 Samuel Sanborn
 John Gillman
 Enos Johnson
 Jonathan Sanborn, Jr
 John Huntoon
 Samuel Fifield
 Thomas George
 Andrew Webster
 Joseph Young, Jr
 Daniel Ladd
 Samuel Emmins
 Philip Hoyt
 Daniel Blasdell
 John Carter
 Samuel Eastman
 John Osillaway
 Nathanael French
 Isaac Griffin

Another Petition for a Township.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Capt. Generall and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ty} Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Hon^{ble} His Maj^{ty} Council for s^d Province.

The Humble petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Kingstown in said Province whose names are annexed hereunto in a Schedule by their Order most humbly sheweth.

That your petitioners having thro' Great Expence and many Difficulties Subsisted & held their Towns Possession in a Long and Tedious warr with the Indian enemy yet a great many of them to subsist themselves and families hath been Obligated to sell y^e greatest part of their Lands and some their Stocks of Cattle, and having many Children now Grown up and fitt to go out and settle for themselves and many more growing up; That will want the like settle^{ment} and your Petitioners the antient Inhabitants what with the sale they were obliged & necessitated to make as aforesaid, and the Incroachments of the Province of Mass^{ts} on them, they have not any Lands to settle their Children on or scarcely to Subsist their families They therefor most humbly pray that as most of y^e Towns in this province have had grants of Townships to them and none as yet granted to y^e Petitioners that may have a Grant of a Tract of Land at Amosceaug of about Eight Miles Square (or as y^e Excellcie & hon^{ble} shall see most meet) and y^e Petitioners shall as in duty bound Ever pray.

EBENEZER STEVENS, by order.

Read and Suspended till next session
R. W. Secry.

Petition of East Parish about division of lines.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Capt. Gen^l & Governor in chiefe in & over his majesties Province of New Hamp^{ts} in New England and to the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council & Representatives in Gen^l Court assembled Jan. y^e 31st 1739-40.

The Petition of the Subscribers (a Committee Representing the East parish in Kingstown) Humbly sheweth.

Whereas it hath graciously pleas'd this great & Gen^l Court to set off sundry of the Inhabitants of the Easterly part of Kingstown in s^d Province themselves. Their families & estates to be a distinct Parish from the Town for which great Goodness we return our Humble & hearty thanks. But yet finding many difficulties & Inconveniences in our present State viz:

There haveing been sundry more Inhabitants Liveing among our Inhabitants who have Petitioned the town that they might be sett off to our Parish: who accordingly granted their Request & in their capacity set them off to us yet we apprehend that we have not sufficient Power to Execute the Law upon them in case there should be occasion for it particularly in regard of our Taxes: also there are others settled & a settling among us who are far more Convenient to us than to the town: & again there are considerable of Lands intermixed with ours which is not inhabited & belongs chiefly to out Town men, which we have no power to Rate: further when any persons come to settle as Tenants upon the Lands so intermixed as above s^d which may be Likely to be a publick charge, & so may in time be a great Burthen to your s^d Parish, we have no power to warn them off or Restrain them under these & other difficulties, which your Excellency & Hon^{rs} in your wisdom may discover: Wee now again Humbly apply ourselves to your Excellency & Hon^{rs} praying that you will be pleased to perfect that which yet concerneth our full settlement & sure establishment by fixing some line of division between our s^d parish & the Town of Kingstown according to your great Wisdom & Goodness & Justice, Respecting both us & our Brethren & friends in the town.

And so shall wee as in duty Bound ever pray.

Joseph Grele	Ralph Blasdel	} A com ^{tee} chosen to Represent the East Parish in Kingstown
William Boynton	Jeremy Webster	
Nathan Bachelder	Benjamin Morrill	
John Webster		

In the House of Representatives

Feb. 2^d 1739-40

The within petition Read and Voted That the Petitioners serve the selectmen of the West part of Kingstown with a copy of the petition, at the petitioners charge & that they appeare to be heard the twelfth of y^r Curr^t to Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted

James Jeffry Clr. Assm.

In Coun. Feb 6th 1739-40

Read and concurrd.

Rich^d Waldron, Secry

Feb. 6th 1739-40.

I assent to the above Votes

J. BELCHER.

In the House of Representatives Feb^y 13th A D. 1739-40

The within Petition read, and the parties heard by their Council and the House Having considered thereof, Voted, That Mr Thomas Packer & Capt Edward Hall be a committee of this House to Joyn with Such as the Hon^{ble} the Council shall appoint to go & view Boath parts of the Town of King-town, In the recess of the assembly and according to the best of their Judgm^t to be where it will be most convenient for a Line between the Easterly pish & the old pish (or westerly part of the s^d Town) may be made the said Committee to make their return to

the Gen^l Assⁿ the third day of the next sitting of the Gen^l Assembly
& y^t the petition^r pay the whole charge.

James Jeffry, Clr. Assⁿ

In Coun. Feb. 15th 1739-40.

Read and concurrd & R. Waldron aud Eph^s Dennet Esq. appointed
to Joyn in the service above.

Rich^d Waldron. Secry

Same day

Assented to

J. BELCHER.

Remonstrance against a new Parish.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Captain General
& Governor in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of
New Hampshire the Honourable his Majesties Council &
Representatives in General Court assembled.

The Humble Petition of the Subscribers a Committee for
the first Parish in Kingston. Humbly sheweth

Whereas at the Last session of the Hon^{ble} Court a number
of the Inhabitants of the East part of Kingston did prefer a
Petition to the hon^{ble} House signifying their willingness and
ability to support the ministry and a school & here upon were
set off their families Persons & estates as a distinct Parish
Notwithstanding they were gratified in this thir Request they
have been Incessiant in their Demand upon the First Parish
Particular to run a line Between the Two meeting houses
which we understand by their explanation of themselves could
be no other way adjusted than by taking The Half Distances
Between the two said Meeting Houses on the Salisbury
Rhode thence running due north to Exeter Line and South to
Almsbury Bounds And to add thirteen men to their number
But conscious of our poverty and Exposed situation we let
them know that we apprehended their Demands were very
unreasonable inasmuch as we had many more Poor Persons
amongst us then were with them who had bin Impoverished
by the warrs. Haveing bin obliged to sell the best of their
Lands to their fathers in their Extremity for very small con-
sideration To support their familys and we have had great
Rumours of a war and are very much Exposed and must
be obliged to keep Garrisons which besides the Exposing of
our Lives and fortunes would be to us the loss of Each mens
Labours one Day in a week Nearly which would Something
Exeed Their Parish rates Besides the charges of supporting
the ministry in our own Parish.

Nevertheless we ofred them Sutch a line as would circum-
scribe their Estates with the Estates of the thirteen above
mentioned and all the Vacant lands intermixed with theirs

which upon their request we have set off to the said East Parish. This grant we have made them in hopes they would have been Easy tho we are fully sencible that their might be named some one farm in their Parish of Greater Income than some twenty livings amongst us. If we speak of the petition now lying before your Excellly And Hon we apprehend y we ought to Expose their Designs Tho not Exprest for a line to Incompass their estates we do not oppose but Should be free to settle Immediately & would have done it without trouble to the Hon Legislature But to have Persons and familys torn of from us or mens Estates torn to Peices and divided meerly to gratify their unreasonable restless & insatiable desires is all that we would humbly Remonstrate against and Earnestly Request your Excell & Hon in your Great wisdom and compassion prevent & fix such a line Between us as shall incompass their estates and leave ours intire to this first parish and your humble Pettioners shall ever Pray, &c.

Simeon Brown	} Committee
John Swatt	
Moses Sleeper	
Joseph Fifield	
Nath Smith	
Tho Webster	

A leagel meeting held by ajornment y^e 26th day of October voted that those men her under written both thay & theire Estates shall be set of to the east Parish in this town to pay both ther town rate minister & school Rate there which being according to there own petition & desire.

Joseph Bean
Obadiah Elkins
Ralph Blasdel sener
John Griffen
John Fifield
Tho Griffen Jr.
Joseph Sawyer

Ralph Blasdel. Jr
Henry Bagely
Jeremiah Curier
William Stevens
Ebenezer Blasdel
Edward Prescott

This is a true copy taken out of King-town book as ates by me

Tristram Sanborn
town clerk for Kingtown.

A Leagel anual town meeting held in Kingstown march y^e 6th 1739
ly Leftenant John Sweet was chosen moderator for that meeting.

4^{ly} It was put to voate to see wheather they wod set of the Est parish of s^d town by a line and it went in the negative

This is a true copy Taken out of Kingstown Book of reacords as atest by me.

Tristram Sanborn,
Town clerk for Kingtown

To Samuel Winslow Jedidiah Philbrick & John Huntoon Selectmen :

Kingstown Septemb^r the 1st 1740.

Whereas the Gen^l Assembly of this province have stated & Settled he Boundary between the Parishes in this town establishing & fixing

the persons & their estates or parts of their Estates, whose Estates or part of them fall to the East of s^d Boundary to the first Parish Providing they shall within one month Give under their hands to the selectmen their desire to remain with the s^d first parish.

These are to Certifie you the Select men that its our desire & design to be accounted of & do duty and Enjoy priviledge in s^d first Parish as witness our hands.

Jona Swett
Tristram Sanborn
his

William X Buswell
mark

Cornelius Clough

William Long

Simon French

Samuel Eastman

Ebenezer Eastman

Isaac Clifford

Elisha Swett

Peter Sanborn

Jedediah Philbrick

Abraham Sanborn

Ebenezer Stevens, Jr

William Buswell, Jr

his

Phillip X Moodey

mark

Jonathan Blake

Richard Long

Benjamin Clough

his

Ely X Bedy

mark

Benj^d Judkins

Moses Sleeper

Benjamin Sleeper

Joseph Clifford

Jonathan Sleeper

Samuel French

his

John X Moodey

mark

Thomas Sleeper

Nathaniel Smith

Joseph Young

Nathanael French, Jr

Samuel Fifield

Jonathan Sanborn

Benjamin Magoon

Benjamin Stevens

David French

John Sleeper

Samuel Judkins

John Judkins

Tristram Sanborn Tert.

This is a True Copy as witness our hands.

September y^e 26th 1740

Jedediah Philbrick } Selectmen
John Huntton } of
Kingston

A true Copie of the
pre mentioned Copie. Attest

Jeremy Webster
Just of Peace.

Petition of Jedidiah Philbrick for partition of real estate.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor & Command^r in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Gen Assembly Convened Dec. 1st 1743.

The Humble petition of Jedidiah Philbrick of Kingstown in s^d Province as Agent or Attorney for Mary Sewall widow, Jonathan Bradley & Susanna his wife & Samuel Bradley & Mary his wife & Josiah Foulsum, Shews, That John Foulsum Late of Exeter in said Province Yeoman Deceased Died In-

testate Siezed of a Considerable Estate (the administratⁿ of w^{ch} was Granted to the s^t Mary Sewall being then the widow Relict of the s^d deceased) & left issue the said Susanna, Mary, Josiah, & another Child since Deceased. That three of the said Children were young when their said father died & the s^d Josiah was born after wards the bringing up of which children & the Debts Due from the s^t Decⁿ with sickness funeral Charges & other necessary Expenses Call'd for most if not all the personal Estate But so it happens that the said Admⁿ is not able to Render any Certain acco^t of her Administraⁿ Especially as it is near twenty years since it was Granted. That by her Industry & Labour she has preserved the Real Estate which now Remains to be divided & which all parties are desirous to have done but as y^e said Josiah is not of full age it cant be done Effectually by their agreement and the Court of Probate is of opinion that it cant be Legally done by the Authority of that Court because by Law an acc^t must be Rendered before Distribution can be made for tis the Surplus only that is to be Divided. Besides tis also a Doubt whether that court can Intermeddle after administraⁿ has been so Long granted wherefore to Remedy all which your Petitioner in behalf of his Constituents Humbly prays that a Special Act may be passed Authorizing Some indiffer^{nt} persons to make a compleat & final Partition of the said Real estate Among the said Interested parties and to order that the same so made be Recorded in some of the Public Records and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c.

JEDEDIAH PHILBRICK.

In the House of Representatives X^{ber} the first 1743. The within Petition Read and Voted that the prayer of the Petition be granted and that Messrs Benj^t Thing Capt Daniell Gilman & Lev^t John Gillman be a Comittee to make Division of said Estate according to Law and that the Petitioners have liberty to Bring in a Bill accordingly

James Jeffery Clr. Ass^m

December 2^d 1743.

In Council, Read & Concurr^d.

Theod. Atkinson Secry.

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for a further hearing on Haverhill petition for a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in chief of his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in Council.

The Petition of Eben^r Stevens & Jedediah Philbrick Agents

for the Town of Kingstown in the Province aforesaid, Humbly shews.

That in Consideration of a Petition now laying before your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council for a Parish in the Western part of Kingstown, and an Appeal now Depending for want of a Competent Quorum of his Majestys Council to hear the same together with some other Essential papers which we are not provided with, your Petitioners humbly pray that a further Day may be appointed for the Town of Kingstown to Shew Cause why the Petition of Richard Hazzen, and others for a Grant of Incorporation in the District of Haverhill so called may not be Granted, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray.

EBEN^r STEVENS
JED^h PHILBRICK

Portsmouth February 12th 1746.

February 7th 1746 then Sirvaide the Parrish granted by Kingstown at the West End adjoining upon Chester and Londonderry Agreement Line and find it upon s^d Line three miles and a half and one hundred and ten Rods: and three miles upon the East and by South poynt at the End agreeable to Said grant.

Sirvid by me.

Sam^l Emerson, Sirvaioir.

[See plan of West Parish set off from Kingstown 7th February, 1746, in MS. Vol. IV., pp. 34, 35. Ed.]

Petition relating to the Basford land grant.

Province of) To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq.
New Hamp^r } Capt Gen^l Governour & Commander in
 } Cheif in and over his Majesty's Province of
New Hampshire and to the hon^{ble} his Majestys Council and
the hon^{ble} house of Representatives in Gen^l Court Con-
ven'd.

Humbly Shews the Proprietors of the Common and undevide Land in the Township of Kingstown in said Province that one James Basford of Chester in s^d Province yeoman pretending to have a right to lands in the s^d town of Kingstown hath procur'd several persons of Chester afores^d who stile themselves Lott layers to make two several returns of lands in Kingstown afores^d to him the s^d James Bassford one of which returns is said to be dated y^e 19th of sept 1733, and the other the 27th of Sept 1733. in both s^d returns are contain'd two hundred and forty acres of Land which land is the right and property of your petitioners and for which the s^d James Bassford hath no Lawfull right or grant neither had the Lott layers any Lawfull authority to lay out the s^d Land and they did the same without acquainting your petitioners or any of the

Proprietors therewith. And at his Maj^{ty}s Superiour Court of Judicature held at Portsmouth within & for the Province afore s^d on the first tuesday of August last past the s^d James Bassford obtained an order for a peremptory mandamus which accordingly Issued from the clerk of s^d court dated August 15th 1746 directed to the Town Clerk of Kingston for the time being, requiring him in his Maj^{ty}s name forthwith to Enter & Record the s^d returns in the record of s^d Town with the other returns of the laying out of Land in the s^d Town, in the same manner as other returns are enter'd and recorded, being presented to him by the s^d James or any other person for him paying the Legal fees for the same and the said Town clerk is therein also required to make return of s^d mandamus & his doings therein unto the s^d Court on the first tuesday in February next at his peril. By which mandamus if observed by s^d Town clerk your Petitioners humbly conceive they will be greatly Injur'd in their Right to & Interest in the Land mentioned in s^d return, (namely) by s^d returns being recorded in your petitioners book of records against your petitioners leave or Consent, the said James being neither Inhabitant of the s^d Town nor hath he any legal right to the land mention'd in s^d returns as proprietor or other wais to your petitioners knowledge wherefore the s^d James Bassford moving s^d Superiour Court for a mandamus to the clerk to record said returns before a tryal at the Common Law to Establish his right to the lands mention'd in s^d return if he had any as also s^d Superiour Courts Issuing s^d mandamus without notifying the Proprietors of s^d Kingston of s^d motion to be heard thereon and shew cause why s^d motion should not be granted your Petitioners humbly conceive to be unpresidential as also very injurious to your petitioners and the example hereof may be the like injurious to the Proprietors of the other towns in this Province unless your Excellency and hon^{rs} interpose herein: Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray that your Excellency and hon^{rs} will interpose herein and order that the s^d mandamus may be stay'd and all proceedings thereon untill s^d James if he sees fit make it appear by a tryal at the Common Law that he hath a right to the land mention'd in the said returns and that your Petitioners may have opportunity to defend their Just rights in a due Course of Law and not to have s^d unlawful returns entered and recorded in your petitioners book of records or other wais grant yo^r Petitioners Such relief in the Premises as your Excellency & hon^{rs} in your great wisdom shall see meet and your Petition^{rs} as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

December 4 1746.

John Sweett
Benjamin Choat

William Long
Nathanael French

Joseph Young
Joseph Fifield
Cornellius Clough
Simon French
Samuel Fifield
Joel Judkins
Samuel Sleeper
John Judkins
Tristram Sanborn
Moses Sleeper
Benjamin Sleeper
Thomas Sleeper
John Sweett Jr
Samuel Sanborn
Elisha Sweet
Saml Winslo
Saml Colcord
Nathan Swett
Benjamin Swett
Samuel Eastman
William Loverin
John Young

Stephen Gilman
Benjamin Eastman
Paul Sanborn
Thomas Elkins
Tristram Sanborn, Jr.
Daniel Lad
John Hutton
Phillip Huntton, jun
Samuell Webster
Joseph Fellows
John Fifield Jr
Benjamin Webster
Ebenezer Stevens, Jr
Sam^l Scribner
Nathan Bachelder
Elisha Winslee
Jonathan Sanborn
Daniel Gilman
Jacob Gilman
Isaac ——— ?
Joseph Elkins
John Gilman.

In Councell Portsm^t Sep^r y^e 4th 1746.

Read & Sent down to the House.

R. Wibird, pro. Secry.

In Council December 5th 1746.

Read again & revived & ordered to be sent down to the House.

Theod^r Atkinson Secry.

Province of) At a Legall meeting of the Inhabitants & free hold-
New Hampshire) ers of Kingstown held the Twenty fourth of Sep-
tember 1746. firstly Leiut John Sweat was Chosen
Moderator for that meeting

2^d Voted that we do hereby as far as in us lyeth set off

Moses Tucker
John Straw
Jonathan Colbee
Daniel Hibard
Daniel Kid
Jacob Gurdey
David Straw
Reuben Clough
Israel Huse Jr.
John Pressey
Benjamin Tucker
John Hogg &

Israel Huse
James Huse
James Graves
John Bond
Jacob Wells
Meshech Gurdey
John Straw Jr
William Straw
Phillips Wells
Jacob Tucker
Joseph Dow
Orlando Colby

Of King-town abovesaid with a Certain Tract of Land in said Town for a distinct Parish or precinct, bounded as followeth Viz^t Beginning at the Beech Tree which is the Dividing boundary between Londonderry & Chester said Tree standing on the West Line of said Kingston and running Southerly on said Kingston said line as heretofore settled between said Londonderry & said Kingston to the Island Pond (so called) Then running Easterly South Three miles then Northerly till a North & by West Course will Strike said Kingston Line (where it

crosses the mill brook so called) as heretofore settled between s^d Kingston & said Chester and from thence Viz. where said line crosses s^d mill brook to run Southerly on said line to the Beech tree first mentioned.

This is a true Copy taken out of Kingston Book of records

Attest Jedⁿ Philbrick, town Clerk.

Petition of persons in the westerly part of Kingston for town privileges.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. Generall, Governour and Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the hon^{ble} his Majestys Council of s^d Province.

The Petition of the Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Westerly parts of the Town of Kingston in s^d Province, Humbly Shews. That your Petitioners living so remote from the meeting house in s^d town are not able to attend the publick Worship there on the Sabbath and also by reason of the distance we live from the Town our other duties & Services have been for a long time past attended with great charge trouble and difficulty and we having represented the same to the s^d town they have at their late legal meeting sett us off as farr as in them lay as a distinct Parish with land suitable for the same as by the Votes of s^d Town herewith presented will fully & plainly appear. Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency & hon^{rs} will be pleased to Confirm the votes of s^d Town by Incorporating us & all others that do or shall inhabit or dwell within the Limits of the land so sett off by the Town into a Parish and that we may have all such privileges as other parishes have both for the setting up and maintaining the publick Worship of God and all other duties & services appertaining to a Parish. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated Sep^r 26th 1746.

Mose^r Tucker
James Huse
Israel Huse
James Graves
Thomas Wells
Israel Huse, Jr
John Hoog
John Bond
Joseph Dow
Phillip Wells
Daniel Hebbard
Jonathan Colby
William Straw

Daniell Kid
Orlando Colby
Paul Chase
Benjamin Tucker
Jacob Tucker
John Pressey
Rolen Clough
John Straw
Jacob Wells
Jacob Gordy
Mesheck Gordy
Daved Straw
John Straw Jr.

Petition for a Justice of the Peace.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief of His Majestys Province of New Hampshire.

The Petition of His Majestys subjects in Kingston.

Humbly sheweth. That having long Experienc'd the good Effects of the administration of the Civil Authority by a Justice of the Peace, as that office was used among us by the Hon^{ble} Ebenezer Stevens Esq. deceas'd: since the death of that very worthy & good Gentleman, we are more Sensible of our obligations to your Excellency for Establishing such authority among us; & affected with our Present disadvantageous & uncomfortable State, for want of such Authority here: to prevent disorders, acknowledge Instruments of Conveyance, receive the Oaths of Town Officers & We therefore humbly Entreat your Excellency to reestablish such authority in this Place, and having been advised that your Excellency has condescended sometimes to Enquire of leading men in a Town who is most likely to support such Commission with Honour, in respect of the People. If the Governour were to honour us with such demand we might with humble submission propose Cap^t Jedidiah Philbrick.

And if your Excellency would further Indulge us we would, but just say: that having been long disus'd to the Inconvenience of going out of Town for such officer, If your Excellency tho't fit to grant such a Favour before our Annual Town meeting: we should esteem it an Instance of your great Condescension & Goodness to us. & it would afford this People a Singular Satisfaction.

We humbly beg your Excellency's Pardon for the Freedom, which your Paternal Concern for the Peace & good order of all under your Government, Condescending Goodness this People entirely your own and the Exigency of our Present state, has Encouraged & urged us to take. And humbly ask leave to add that, If your Excellency shall grant such Commission to such Person or Persons among us, & in such Time as in your great Wisdom you shall think fit, Your humble Petitioners shall ever pray.

Kingston Feb. 23^d 1749-50.

John Fifield, Jr
Joseph Bean
Sam Colcord
Benjamin Stevens
Paul Sanborn
Elisha Sweet
John Huntoon

Samuel Fifield
Elisha Winslow
William Calfe
Nathan Swett
Tristram Sanborn, Jr
Joel Judkins.

Little Harbour 28th Feb. 1749.

Sir:

You are hereby desired to Place Capt Philbricks name in the Com-

mission of peace & to administer the Oath to him in order to Qualify him for his Office.

Your hum. Serv^t

B. WENTWORTH.

Coll. Atkinson.

Petition for soldiers to keep the Fort.

Province of) To his Excellency Benning Wentworth
New Hampshire) Esq. Capt Gen^l & Govern^r & Commander
in Chief in and over his Majesties' of
New Hamp^t and to the Hon^{ble} his Majes-
ties Council & House of Representatives
in Gen^l Court Assembled.

The Petition of the Subscribers Humbly shews that, whereas your Excellency & Hon^{ble} Petitioners with our associates Proprietors of that Tract of land Called Maj^r Stevens' town in s^d Prov. out of a view, & Sincere aim of Settling & Encreasing this his Majesties Governm^t & thereby to make frontier yet a greater distance from us, Have Exerted ourselves both in our persons and Estates in Laying out our land & in Building many Good Houses to Inhabit, & moving up many families to dwell in them and also have Built a goodly Fort for their Safety: But the Indian Enemy having in the summer past made a Breach upon us & Captivated several of our Inhabitants & thereby lessen^d our Number of Inhabitants & discouraged those that are left and also discourages others from settling so that we under these circumstances must be forced to move off our s^d Inhabitants & so break up our settlements, & Demolish our Fort, which we humbly conceive may be a damage to this Governm^t Wherefore we humbly pray that your Excellency & Hon^{ble} would Consider our Case & Grant us some help of soldiers to keep our s^d fort & keep our inhabitants there which we humbly Conceive may be of advantage to this Governm^t and we shall still Exert our selves in promoting & Encouraging additional settlements by Encreasing our Inhabitants on s^d Tract; and so we shall as in duty Bound Ever pray &

Kingstown January the 30th day 1755.

JEREMY WEBSTER
ELISHA SWEET
SAM^l FIFIELD
JACOB GALE
JOHN WEBSTER

In Council, Jan. 30th 1755
read & recommended

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition of sundry persons to remain in the old Parish.

Province of) Kingston February the 4th 1760.
 New Hampshire) To His Excellency Benning Wentworth
 Esq. Captain General and Commander
 in Chief of the Province afore's^d. and to the Hon^{ble} His
 Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General
 Assembly Convened.

The Petition of us, the Subscribers inhabitants of Kingston,
 Humbly sheweth, That

Whereas a Petition Subscribed by a Number of the Inhabitants
 of the Westerly Part of the old Parish in said Town has been pre-
 sented to the General Court of said province Praying for a Par-
 ish which according to the Limmitts Petitioned for will include us
 the Subscribers and your Petitioners knowing that in Country
 towns every Person cannot be accommodated with a meeting
 House at his Door and that the Breaking into so many small
 Parishes is (in our Humble opinion) so far from being for the
 Intrest of Religion (which is the Pretence) that it is very much
 injured by it By the great & needless charges that arise there-
 by, and it is very unreasonable (as wee think) for us & our
 estates to be laid under those unnecessary Burdens by being
 Joyned with them contrary to our inclinations and Intrest.
 Wee therefore Humbly pray That if your Excellcy & Honor^s
 see Fitt to Grant the former Petitioners a Parish you would in
 your great Wisdom & clemency take our Circumstances under
 your Consideration and not compel us to Joyn with the former
 Petitioners Butt allow uss and our estates to Do duty and en-
 joy Priviledges with the old Parish as Before, and your Hum-
 ble Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray &c.

Thomas Elkins
 William Sleeper
 Abner Whittier
 Phillip Davis
 Eli Silver ?
 Joseph Webster
 Amos Eastman
 Isaac Webster
 Richard Sargent
 Jonathan Sargent
 Francis Pollard
 Jeremiah Hubbard
 Richard Hubbard
 Thomas Dent
 John Webster
 Hanah Dodge
 Joseph Heath
 Daniel Hurst
 Daniel Sargent
 his
 William X Sargent
 mark

Moses Welch
 Joseph Heath, Jr
 Benjamin Severance
 Samuel Stewart ?
 Samuel Daves
 Ezekiel Davis
 John Davis
 Joseph Fellows
 John Coser
 Sam^l Davis, Jr
 Jacob Davis
 Edward Eastman 3^d
 William Eastman
 John Thorn
 James Thorn
 Benjamin Collins
 Jonathan Collins
 Ezra Tucker
 Timothy Eastman
 John Fifield, Jr
 Jonathan Harve
 Eben^r Severance

Sam^l Fellows
David Flanders
John Bartlet

Isaac Flanders
William Chales

Petition for a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honourable His Majestys Council And House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened, the Second Day of January 1760.

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of that Part of Kingston in Said Province adjoining on the Parish of Sandown, Humbly shews.

That whereas Providence hath placed us at a great Distance from any place of stated public Worship in Town & so rendered our Attendance thereon very difficult & our Families often impracticable: We have built a meeting House among us to accomodate ourselves & Families, That we & they might more conveniently attend the public Worship of God & with more ease & comfort enjoy the Word & ordinances necessary for Salvation. And being disirious at our own cost & charge to maintain the Worship of God among us. We petitioned The Town to Set us off to be a Parish Separate from them, But they (as we apprehend) not regarding our difficult Circumstances have unreasonably denied our Request: Wherefore We humbly pray that we may be sett off & incorporated into a Parish distinct from them in the following manner viz^t bounding Westerly on Sandown East Line, thence to extend Easterly carrying the whole Breadth of the Town till it comes half way between our new meeting house & the old meeting house in Town. And that we may be discharged from paying to the ministry & the School in the other part of the Town & enjoy the Powers & Priviledges of other Parishes.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

Samuell Webster
John March
Obediah Elkens
Jonathan French
Israel Dimond
William Clifford
Daniel Brown
Henry Morrill
Anans Camell
Jonathan Sanborn
Beniaman Webster
Thomas Welch
Joshua Webster

Benjamin Selly
Joseph Brown
William Brusel ?
Dyer Hook
Humphry Hook
Joseph Worth
Elisha Bachelder
Jacob Hook
Edward Eastman, Jr
Reuben Bachelder
Samuel Sargent
David Tilton
Aron Quimby

Samuel March
Jeremiah Quimby
Joseph Sweat
John March, Jr
Ezra Tucker
John Paige
Samuel Quimbe
Elias Rano
Nathan Jones
Ezra Jones
Jonathan Blake
Malachi Daves
Stephen Barnard
John Quimby
Thomas Eliot Colby
Elisha Clough

Jeremiah Flanders
Ephraim Paige
Moses Quimby
Henray Hunt
John Collins
David Quimby
Benjamin Darling
Joseph Clifford
Joshua Webster, Jr
Benjamin Webster Jr
Paul Pressey
William Sefley
John Sanborn, Jr
Thomas Wadley
William Morey
Thomas Eastman

In Council Jan. 16th 1760

The within Petition read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

Theodore Atkinson, Secy

Province of (In the house of Representatives, Jan. 16th 1760. This
New Hamp) petition bein read, ordered,

That the petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly next after the fifteenth of Febry next, & that they at their own Cost & Charge cause the select men of Kingston to be served with a Copy of this petition & order of Court thereon, that they may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Jan^y 17th 1760.

Read & Concurr^d

Theod^r Atkinson, Secry.

Province of (In the house of Representatives Feby 19th 1760.

New Hampshire) This petition having been read, The parties on
Each side appear'd by themselves & attorneys &
after being fully heard thereon, Voted, that the prayer thereof be granted
So far as to be agreeable to the minutes, on the Back of the plan, &
that the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson, Clerke.

In Council Feby. 20th 1760.

Read & Concurred.

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition relating to boundaries.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire. The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & Assembly of said Province

The Humble Petition of Benjamin Stevens and Elis ha Swett both of Kingston in said Province as Agents for the Proprietors of the common Land there shews

That the Township of Chester lying next to Kingston &

Principally on the Westerly Side thereof the Proprietors of said Chester have lately Raised a dispute with the Proprietors & inhabitants of Kingston about the Bounds there and would Remove the said Westerly Boundary of Kingston. (which your Petition^r apprehended was fixed & marked before the grant of Chester) further Eastward & claim the Land between the line which they give us, & that which we say is the true Line, and in Consequence of this have bro't an action against one Bean who holds a parcel of Land between these two lines. in the Right of Kingston which action is now Pending at the Infer^r Court.

That the land between these lines has been almost if not quite all laid out by Kingston into lots of about forty rods in Breadth & half a mile in length so that there is a prospect of many suits at Law before this dispute will be ended in that way, which will be Expensive & Burdensome many ways, which the Proprietors of Kingston would gladly have settled in a more Summary method. But that cant be done by the direction of the Law to Renew and Perambulate Boundaries. for they will not agree to the place which we fix for that Renewal of Perambulation, nor is there any Prospect of Compounding for each party Claims & seems to be determined to have the whole. That the foundation of their claim as yo^r Petitioners suppose is a Supposition that Kingston has more Land than the Exact admeasurement of their lines wou'd give them which is no more than may be said of every Tract of Land laid out in the woods & Especially so long ago as the grant & Survey of Kingston.

Wherefore your Petition^{rs} in behalf of their Principals Pray that this matter may be Exam^d and by a Resolve of the Legislature Determined which of these two Disputed Lines, or where the true boundary line of Kingston on the side aforesaid & elsewhere where Chester Disputes with them is, which your Petition^r humbly Conceive will Prevent many suits at Law & they will as in duty bound ever pray &c

BENJAMIN STEVENS } for himself &
 } said Swett.

In Council Apr 2^d 1761.

The within Petition read & ordered to be sent to the hon^{ble} Assembly.

Theodore Atkinson, Secy.

Province of) In the House of Representatives
New Hamp^{sh}) April 2^d 1761.

This petition being read, ordered That the petitioners be heard thereon the 23^d instant, if the General Assembly be then sitting, If not then on the third day of their sitting next after & that they at their own cost and charge cause the clerk of y^r proprietors of Chester to be served with a copy of this petition & this order of Court thereon that

he or they may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Eod^m Die

Read & Concurred.

Theod^r Atkinson, Secry.

Province of) In the House of Representatives
New Hamp^{sh}) April 23, 1761.

The parties appearing and being fully heard thereon, Voted, that Col. Joseph Smith Esq. Mr Zebulon Gidding & Mr Thom^s Wiggin be a committee to joyn with such as may be appointed by the Hon^{ble} Council to Repair to the place mention'd In s^d petition & Examine into the premises mentioned therein & make Report to this house as soon as may be.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Eod^m Die.

Read & Concurred and the Hon^{ble} Joseph Newmarch Esq. added on the part of the Board.

Theod Atkinson, Secry.

Report of Committee on the same.

Province of) May the 29th 1761.
New Hampshire) Pursuant to the foregoing vote of the Generall Assembly, We the Subscribers being appointed a Committee to Repair to the place mentioned in the foregoing Petition and Examin into the Premises therein mentioned have accordingly so done and for answer do Report and say from the evidences that appear'd to us on the spot and from the Circumstances of the several Towns Round about do adjudge & Say That the South west Corner of the Town of Exeter at which stood a Beach Tree on the Stump of which there is now a pile of stones from which pile of stones or Stump. in the North line of Kingston at the head of s^d Exeter and from thence to run westerly to a certain large dead pine tree now standing Marked with Sundry letters which we Judge is the true Northwest Corner of Kingston, and then from said pine southerly to a Beach tree which is the South East Corner of Chester and the North East Corner of Londonderry Standing on Kingston's head line, which boundary so far we say are the true bounds of Kingston and do therefore accordingly Humbly Submitt the Same.

J. Newmarch	} Committee
Joseph Smith	
Thomas Wiggin	
Zebulon Giddinge	

Province of) In the House of Representatives
New Hamps) May 31st 1761.

This Report being Read, Voted

That it be Received, allowed & accepted & sent up for concurrence.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council June 2^d 1761.

Read & concurred.

Theod. Atkinson, Secry.

Petition about Small-pox.

Province of } The petition of us the Subscribers unto the
 New Hamp^s } Honorable the House of Representatives for
 the Province of New Hampshire afores^d
 most humbly sheweth.

That Whereas John Davice and David Flanders both of Kingston in the Province Afores^d were enlisted in and went on the Expedition against Canada In the year Past under the Command of Cap^t Jonson and on their Return home They took the Infection of the Small Pox and falling sick of the same they fell under our care and greatly to our Cost. And with Great Confidence in and Reliance on your great Wisdom and care for the good of the Several Towns and Parishes within this Province we Do the more cheartfully Present our Petition unto you for your wise Consideration of the same, humbly praying that you would order the Cost to Be paid out of the Treasury of this Province And thereby we shall Be Discharged from the heavy charge of such a Sickness which was Brought on the persons By their voluntarily Serving their King and Countury &

And We as In duty Bound shall Ever Pray.

SAM ^l WINSLE	} Selectmen of Kingston.
SAMUEL FIFIELD	
SAMUEL STUEART	

Kingston February the 17th 1761.

The Account of the Charge of John Davice and David Flanders when sick with the small pox in Kingston in December 1760, and January 1761, and

	£	S	D
Provision and Wood	114	10	00
Nurses	201	00	00
For use of the house	10	00	00
Doctors Bill	15	10	00
Cleansing the house	25	00	00
Selectmens time in taking care of the sick under the small pox	10	00	00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	376	00	00

old Tenor.

The nurses asked £5 Old Tenor pr day.

Deduct for the Select mens Charge w ^{ch} the house will not allow any thing for	£10
	<hr/>
	366

£366 old Tenor. Is Sterlg £14-12-9 Sterlg | £14-12-9 Sterlg.

Province of } April the 20th 1761.

New Hamp^s } Then the men whose names are annexed to the fore-
 going Petition Personally appeared and made oath to the
 account following the Petition to Be True according to the Best of their
 Knowledge Before me,

Eben^r Stevens, Just. Peace.

Province of } In the House of Representatives

New Hamp^s } Apr 22^d 1761.

Voted, That there be allow'd & paid to the Selectmen of Kingstown or their order Fourteen pounds Twelve Shillings & nine pence Sterlg, in full of this petition & paid out of money that is or may be In the Treasury for paying of the Forces last years Campaign.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

£14 ,, 12 ,, 9, Sterlg.

In Council April 25th 1761.

Read & concurrd.

Theod^r Atkinson Secry.

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

KENSINGTON.

[Incorporated as a Parish of Hampton 19th August. 1737. Ed.]

Petition to send a representative.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq Governor and Commander in Chief in and over this his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the honourable the Council and the Gentlemen of the house of Representatives Now Siting for said province.

The petition of the parish of Kensington, Humbly sheweth, That

Whereas your Excellency with the honourable Court have Indulg'd the Westerly part of Hampton falls with the Favour of having a distinct parish with such priviledges as other parishes within this province have Excepting that of making Choice of a man to Represent them in General Assembly, and we having been without this priviledge for these two years past in not having an opportunity to have our voice in Choosing of a Representative. Notwithstanding we pay our proportion of the Province Taxes we desire you would grant us the liberty henceforth to choose a man from among our selves to Represent this Parish in General Assembly. Depending upon the Wisdom and Clemency of this Court nothing doubting but that so Reasonable a Request will be granted

ROBERT ROW } Select
EZEKIEL DOW } men

And in behalf of the parish.

In the House of Representatives, the within Petition Read and Voted y^t y^e prayer of the Pett^rs be granted.

James Jeffrey, Clr. Assm.

Aug. 6th 1740.

At a Legal meeting of the freeholders of the Parish of Kensington holden in said Parish on the 22^d day of September 1742 then Voted, that Robert Row and Ebenezer Brown (1) should put in a petition to his Excellency and the Honorable Court of this province the next General sessions for the priviledge of having a Representative.

As Attest Ezekiel Dow,
Parish Clerk.

(1) The same petition as above, was renewed May, 1743, by Robert Row and Ebenezer Brown.

KINGSWOOD.

THE CHARTER OF KINGSWOOD, AND THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PROPRIETORS.

[Kingswood was granted, as will be seen from the following charter, 20 October 1737, during the administration of Gov. Belcher. It appears to have comprehended the towns of Middleton, New Durham, New Durham Gore, and part of the towns of Gilmanton, Wakefield and Wolfeborough. J. FARMER.]

Charter.

{ Prov. } Province of New Hampshire
{ Seal. }

George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France & Ireland King Defender of the faith &c

To all People to whom these Presents shall Come, Greeting. Know ye that we of our Especial Grace certain Knowledge and meer motion for the due Encouragement of Settling a new Plantation for the Encrease of Naval Stores and for the better defence of our said Province of New Hampshire by and with the Advice of our Council for the said Province of New Hampshire have given & Granted and by these Presents as far as in us lies do give and grant unto Sundry of our beloved Subjects Whose names are Entered in a Schedule hereunto annexed and to their Associates in all to make up the number of sixty and to their Heirs for Ever in the manner hereafter Expressed a certain tract of land lying and being within our said Province of New Hampshire bounded as followeth viz^t Beginning at the South Easterly Corner of Barnstead and from thence to run upon the Same Course as Barnstead Easterly side line runs to Winnipisioky Pond from thence upon a Right Angle till it comes to the Boundary line between our said Province of New Hampshire and that which was formerly called the province of Main from thence on the said Boundary line runneth to the North Easterly Corner of The Town of Rochester from thence by Rochester and Barrington head lines to the bounds first mentioned and that the same be a Town Corporate by the name of Kingswood to the Persons in said Schedule mentioned and their associates as aforesaid and their Heirs for ever, To Have and To Hold the said Tract of land unto the Persons in said Schedule mentioned and their associates as aforesaid and their Heirs forever. on the following Conditions viz^t.

1st That Each Proprietor build a dwelling house within the said Town and settle a family therein within the space of Five years from the date

hereof unless there should be a War and then the space of five years from the End of such Warr to be allow'd for the same.

2^d That a meeting house be built at the charge of the Proprietors within the said Town within the space of Five years and an orthodox minister settled in said Town within seven years from the date hereof unless there should be a Warr and then the Term of five years from the End of said Warr to be allow'd for the same.

3^d If any particular proprietor or proprietors should not comply with the Terms of this Charter within the time limited as aforesaid such delinquent Proprietor or Proprietors shall forfeit his or their respective Interest Right or share in the said Town unto the rest of the Proprietors, provided the rest of the proprietors do and perform within Two years after the time limited as aforesaid shall be Expired, what should have been done and performed by such delinquent Proprietor or Proprietors Any thing in this Charter contained to the Contrary thereof notwithstanding Provided nevertheless that there be three hundred acres of land reserved in said Town for the first Ordained minister in fee that shall be settled in said Town by vote of the said proprietors and three hundred acres be reserved for the Second Ordained minister in fee that shall be settled as aforesaid and six hundred acres for a Parsonage or Parsonages for ever and three hundred acres for the use of a school or schools in said Town for ever all to be laid out for the uses Aforesaid, and the nine hundred acres last mentioned to be applied for the uses aforesaid by the Proprietors or Major Part thereof. The Proprietors of said Tract of land Rendering and paying there for to us our Heirs and successors or such officer as shall be appointed to Receive the same the annual Quit-Rent or acknowledgments of Ten Pounds of Hemp upon the last day of October yearly and every year if lawfully demanded in said Town Reserving also unto us our Heirs and successors all Mast Trees growing on said Tract of land, And for the better order and Government of the said Town We do by these Presents for us our Heirs and Successors Grant unto the said Town yearly & every year to hold Town meetings and to transact all their Town Affairs as fully and amply to all Intents and purposes, as any Town in this our Province of New Hampshire doth or ought to do according to Law; and to the said Proprietors to hold Proprietors meetings distinct & Separate from Town meetings in Any town in our Province of New Hampshire and to choose such officers as they shall think necessary. The first of which Proprietors meetings shall be called by the Three Persons first mentioned in the schedule hereunto annexed by a Notification in writing by them signed and affixed to some publick place in the Town of Portsmouth in said Province seven days at least before the holding of such meeting and Afterwards the said proprietors meetings shall be called by such persons of said Proprietors and in such a manner as shall be agreed upon by Said Proprietors or the Major part of them at any Proprietors meeting And it is hereby further provided that when so ever any sum or sums of money shall be voted to be raised by the major part of the Proprietors at any of their meetings for the use of the said Proprietors and any proprietor or Proprietors shall neglect to pay the proper proportionable part of the same to the Person or Persons who shall be appointed to Collect And Receive the same for the space of two months after it ought to be paid according to the Vote for raising it, The said Person or Persons shall be and hereby are empowered to make Sale of so much land of any such delinquent Proprietor or Proprietors that shall be in Severalty at Such times as shall Amount to five times the Value of the sum or sums assessed on such delinquent Proprietor or proprietors, The same to be sold at a publick Vendue by such Person or Persons as shall be appointed to Collect and receive the Same after

fifteen days publick notice thereof given in the Town where the Majority of the Proprietors shall then live and then deducting the charges that shall then have accrued upon such sale the Remainder shall be deposited in the Common proprietors Stock, and we do further by these Presents for us our Heirs and successors Give and Grant unto the said Town to Have Hold and enjoy Two fairs in said Town yearly and every year for ever not Exceeding three days Each the one to begin on the third Wednesday in May and the other on the third Wednesday in September and So de anno in annum for Ever. In Testimony whereof we have Caused the Publick Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed, Witness Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over our said Province of New Hampshire the twentieth day of October in the Eleventh year of our Reign Annoque Domini one Thousand seven hundred and thirty Seven.

J. BELCHER.

By His Excellencys Comand
with the advice of the Council
Rich^d Waldron, Sec^{ry}

A true Copy from the Original Charter compared and transcribed by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

A Schedule of the Persons names to whom the within Charter is granted
viz.

Eleazer Russell	W ^m Frost
Nath ^l Rogers	Benj ^r Miller
Matthew Livermore	Dan ^l Moulton
Tho ^s Peirce	Benj. Gambling
W ^m Parker	Jn ⁿ Pray
Benj ^r Walton	Solomon Pike
Sam ^l Hart	Nich ^o Whidden
Jos ^s Molton	Jn ^o Fellows
Jn ^o Cut	Tho ^s Westbrook
Tho ^s Wright	Dan ^l Rogers
Jn ^o Ayers	Sam. Sherburn, Inhold ^r
Solomon Cotton	Elliot Vaughan
Dan ^l Jackson Jr	Peter Greley
Sam ^l Sherburn, Merch ^t	Ichabod Plaisted
Henry Sherburn Jr. Ditto	Tho ^s Newmarch
W ^m King	Jn ^o Kennard
Jn ^o Sherburn of little Harbour	Henry Sherburne Jr of the plains
Jos. Sherburn, Son to Jos. Sherburne Esq	John Dennet son of Eph ^m Den- net Esq.
Nath ^l Mendum	Moses Dennet
Geo. Rogers	Jos Langdon
Jos. Whipple	Sam ^l White
Jn ^o Ross	Geo. Peirce
Charles Frost N. Castle	Joseph Jackson
Jn ^o Shacktord, Jr	Moses Noble
Jn ^o Wood	

A true Copy from the original Schedule transcribed & Compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Pursuant to a Charter Granted to Sundry persons of a tract of land lying in the province of New Hampshire called by the Name of Kingswood: These are to Notify the Proprietors thereof that they meet at

the house of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in New Hampshire Aforesaid on monday the last day of October Instant at two of the Clock in the Afternoon Then and there, first to choose a moderator 2^{dly} to choose a Proprietors Clerk 3^{dly} To admit and Vote in the associates according to the Charter, 4th To agree upon & prescribe a method for calling proprietors meeting for the future till altered by the Proprietors, 5th To choose such Committees as the proprietors may think necessary 6^{thly} To choose a proprietors Tax Collector; as also any other officer or officers for the Service of the said Proprietors and to do and transact any other business relating to the said Proprietors.

Dated October
the 21st 1737.

Nath ^l Rogers	} Appointed by the Charter
Eleazer Russell	
Matthew Livermore	

to call the first Proprietors meeting.

A true Copy of the Original Notification transcribed and Compared
by Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Province of) At a Meeting of the Proprietors of the town of Kings-
New Hamp^t) wood lying in the Province of New Hamp^t at the House
of Mrs Ann Harvey in Portsm^o in s^d Province on the last
day of October 1737 pursuant to Notification therefor First. Voted that
Nathaniel Rogers Esq^r be Mod^r of the meeting, 2th Voted that Matthew
Livermore be Proprietors Clerk who was Sworn to the faithfull discharge
thereof by George Jaffrey Esq.

3^{thly} Voted that Shadrach Walton Esq be admitted an associate in
said town of Kingswood. That George Jaffrey Esq. be admitted an as-
sociate in s^d town. That Iotham Odiorne Esq be admitted an associate
in s^d town. That Henry Sherburne Esq be admitted an associate in s^d
town, That Richard Waldron Esq. be admitted an associate in s^d Town,
That Ephraim Dennet Esq. be admitted an associate in s^d town. That
Joshua Peirce Esq. be admitted an associate in s^d Town, That Joseph
Sherburn Esq. be admitted an associate in s^d town, That Ellis Huske
Esq. be admitted an associate in s^d Town, That Theodore Atkinson
Esq. be admitted an associate in s^d Town That Mr Andrew Belcher be
admitted an associate in s^d Town.

4th Voted that Eleazer Russell Esq. Nath^l Rogers Esq. and Matthew
Livermore or the Major Part thereof be a committee to call Proprietors
meetings for the future as they shall see occasion till further Order.

5th That upon application of Ten whole share Proprietors or so
many as are Equivalent thereto made unto the afores^d Committee for a
Proprietors meeting the said Committee or Major part of them shall
call a Proprietors meeting within the space of Twelve days after such
application made and give seven days notice thereof in writing under
their hands or the Major Part of them to be set up at some publick
place in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire and that when
a Proprietors meeting is called upon such application made the said
committee shall insert in the notification for calling such meeting, who
they were that applied for, and the particular Business they would have
done and transacted at Such meeting.

6th Voted that three persons of the Proprietors be a committee to
Consider of a proper method and agree for a number of Persons to set-
tle the Town of Kingswood according to the Charter and make their
Report thereof unto the Proprietors at a Proprietors meeting for con-
firmation and that the said Committee agree with a person or Persons
to run such lines as said Committee shall think necessary and make
Report thereof as soon as may be.

7th Voted, That Nathaniel Rogers Esq. Eleazer Russel Esq. and Matthew Livermore be a committee for the business mentioned in the Sixth Vote.

8th Voted that Henry Sherburne Esq. be Treasurer for the Proprietors of Kingswood till further order

9th Voted that Mr John Fellows be Tax Collector for the Proprietors of Kingswood till further order

10th Voted that Each Proprietor pay the sum of twenty shillings to the Tax Collector which he is impowered to collect of each Proprietor by shewing a copy of this Vote and to be pay'd by Each proprietor to s^d Collector within the space of fourteen days from the date hereof, which moneys when collected, the said Collector is to pay unto the Proprietors Treasurer for the use of the Proprietors.

11th Voted, that the Committee mentioned in the seventh Vote be impowered to draw out of the hands of the Treasurer of the Proprietors such sum or sums of money as said Committee shall have occasion for, for the use of the Proprietors and to render an account of their disposition thereof to the Proprietors as soon as may be and s^d Treasurer is hereby impowered to pay such sum or sums.

12th Voted That the Proprietors clerk be Impowered to purchase a Book for the use of the Proprietors to enter the charter and Schedule and all the Proceedings of the Proprietors in, and that s^d clerk draw money out of the Proprietors Treasurers hands to pay for s^d Book who is hereby Impowered to pay the same.

13th Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Wednesday the Sixteenth day of November next at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey in Portsmouth in New Hampshire at two of the clock in the afternoon.

Nath^l Rogers, Moderator.

A true copy transcribed from the original minutes and compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Nov^r 16th 1737.

Proprietors met according to adjournment and the committee not having finished their Report, it is voted that this meeting be further adjourned to Fryday the Twenty fifth day of November Instant at two of the clock in the afternoon at the house of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in New Hampshire.

Nath^l Rogers, Moderator.

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Nov^r 25th 1737.

The Proprietors met according to adjournment, and the Committee not yet having finished their Report it is Voted that this meeting be adjourned to the first Monday in December next at two of the clock in the afternoon at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in New Hampshire.

Nath^l Rogers, Moderator

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore.
Proprietors Clerk.

December the 5th 1737.

The Proprietors met according to adjournment, and Voted that the following Report of the Committee be accepted namely, That they had conferred with Doct^r John Ross in order to agree with him upon Terms for settling the Town of Kingswood and that they had employed a surveyor to run the Westerly side line of Kingswood and to coast the

Pond from the upper Part thereof down to lower arm of it, and that the said Surveyor had done according to their order and made a Return thereof by which it appear'd to the said Committee that they could not agree with any Person in order to a Settlement till some other line or Lines were Run. Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Thursday the fifteenth day of December Ins^t at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey, Taverner in Portsmouth in New Hampshire at Three of the clock in the after noon.

Nath^l Rogers, Mod^r

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

December 15th 1737.

The Proprietors met according to adjournment And 1st Voted that the Committee, namely Nathanael Rogers & Eleazer Russell Esq^{rs} & Matthew Livermore Already appointed to agree with a Person or Persons to run such line or lines of Kingswood as they should think necessary be a committee to agree with a Surveyor or Surveyors to run such other line or lines of the s^d Town of Kingswood as are not Already run as said Committee shall think necessary and that they do the same business at the Expence of the Proprietors of said Kingswood and that they make their Report of their doing relating thereto to the said Proprietors as soon as said Committee Conveniently Can.

2^d Voted that Each Proprietor of said Kingswood pay the sum of twenty shillings to Mr John Fellows Tax-Collector for s^d Proprietors that the same be collected by s^d Collector in the method already prescribed and Voted, and that the said Collector pay the same to Henry Sherburne, Esq. Treasurer for s^d Proprietors to be drawn out of the hands of s^d Treasurer by the s^d Committee for the use of said Proprietors.

3^d Whereas it is found by Experience that every meeting of the Proprietors Afores^d is attended with an unavoidable Expence to those present, it is therefore Voted that the Expence of Each respective meeting of said Proprietors begining at this present meeting not Exceeding the sum of forty shillings shall be born by the said Proprietors and that the Moderator of said Meeting be and hereby is impowered to draw on the Treasurer of s^d Proprietors to pay said Expence not exceeding said sūm at each respective meeting and how much of said sum shall be spent at each respective meeting shall be Voted at such meeting.

4th Voted that the sum of forty shillings be Expended at this meeting

5th Voted that this meeting be adjourned to the thirteenth day of January next at two of the clock in the Afternoon at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire.

Nath^l Rogers, Mod^r

A true Copy from the Original Minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

Jan. 13th 1737-S

The proprietors met according to adjournment, And 1st, Voted that the sum of nine shillings be Expended at this meeting.

2^d The surveyor not being returned. Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Thursday the nineteenth day of January Ins^t at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire at two of the Clock in the afternoon.

Nath^l Rogers, Mod^r

A true Copy from the original Minutes transcribed and Compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

Jan. nineteenth 1737-8

The Proprietors met according to adjournment and 1st Voted that the first settlement in the town of Kingswood shall be in the Southerly Corner of said Town

2^{ly} Voted that Col^l Henry Sherburne, Richard Waldron & Matthew Livermore Esqs shall be and hereby are appointed a Committee to agree with such Person or Persons as they can to procure sixty families to settle in the Town ship of Kingswood as soon as may be for the Interest of the Proprietors and that the said Committee be & hereby are authorized and Impowered to offer in the name of the Proprietors of said Township, for the Encouragement of the settlers, a number of acres of the land in the said Township not Exceeding three hundred at the Discretion of the s^d Committee for Each family to be laid out in such manner and form as the said Committee shall think proper agreeable to the preceding Vote, and that each share of land which the said committee shall cause to be laid out and appropriated to Each settler shall be good & pass the Right of the Proprietors in said share, to such settler his Heirs and assignees forever And that the said Committee shall cause to be laid out besides, three shares of land of the same contents, one for the first minister, his Heirs and Assigns forever, one for a Parsonage to the use of and in the first settlement or District in the said Township forever, one for the use of a school in said settlement or District forever and also three hundred acres more for each Proprietor in as Equal a manner as They can for the mutual Interest of the Proprietors, and further that the said Committee cause all the aforesaid one hundred and twenty three shares of land to be laid out in so many and such Divisions as they shall think proper (Each to be done in the same manner) at the cost and charge of the Proprietors.

3^{ly} Voted that forty shillings shall be Expended at this meeting.

4th Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Fryday the twenty seventh day of January Inst at two of the clock in the afternoon at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire.

Nath^l Rogers, Mod^r

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

January y^e 27th 1737-8.

The proprietors met according to adjournment, and first Voted, that thirty three shillings and sixpence shall be expended at this meeting.

2^{ly} Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Fryday the tenth day of February next at five of the clock in the afternoon at the House of Mrs Ann Harvey taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire.

Nath^l Rogers, Mod^r

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore,
Proprietors Clerk.

Province of } At a meeting of the Proprietors of the town of
New Hampshire } Kingswood in the province of New Hampshire on
the tenth day of February 1737-8 at the house of
Mrs Ann Harvey, Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New
Hampshire by adjournment,

1st Voted that the sum of seventeen shillings shall be expended at this meeting.

2^{ly} Voted, that this meeting be adjourned to the sixteenth day of March next to the House of Mrs Ann Harvey Taverner in Portsmouth in the Province of New Hampshire at two of the clock in the afternoon

Nath^l Rogers Mod^r

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Province of } March ye 16th 1737-8

New Hamp^t } The Proprietors met according to adjournment, and voted 1st that forty shillings shall be expended at this meeting.

2^{ly} Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Fryday the Thirty first day of March Instant at two of the clock in the afternoon at the usual Place.

Nath^l Rogers, Mod^r

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed and compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

Prov. of } March 31st 1738.

N. Hamp^t } The proprietors met according to adjournment and

Voted 1st That the sum of four shillings and three pence be expended at this meeting.

2^{ly} That this meeting be adjourned to Tuesday the Twenty fifth day of April next at two of the clock in the afternoon at the usual Place.

Nath^l Rogers, Mo^d

A true copy from the original minutes transcribed & compared by
Matthew Livermore
Proprietors Clerk.

LANCASTER

AND OTHER TOWNS BORDERING ON IT.

[Lancaster was granted to Capt. David Page and others, July 5. 1763. Ed.]

Minutes of Council.

At a council held at Portsm^o by his Excellency's Summons on Friday March 13th 1772, Present, His Excellency the Gov^r

Theodore Atkinson	} Esqrs	George Jaffrey	} Esquires
Daniel Rindge		Daniel Rogers	
Daniel Pierce			

The petition of the proprietors of Lancaster Northumberland, Shelburne, setting forth the utility of a Road from Conway to Connecticut River on the East of the White hills, and praying his Excellency would be pleased to order the Surv^r General of Lands to mark out a proper Road & Issue such further order thereon as will effectuate the same:

Whereupon the council took under considⁿ the premises and the matter therein contained appearing to be reasonable & tending much to advance & facilitate the settlem^t of that part of the Country, as well as for the general benefit & advantage of the province it is tho't expedient & his Excellency is accordingly advised, When he thinks proper, to issue orders for the surv^t gen^l to Enter on the Said Business: and that this Petition be refer'd to the Gen^l Assembly at their next meeting in order that provision may be made to defray the Expence thereof.

Copy from the Minutes of Council.

Examined by

Geo: King D. Sec^y

Petition for soldiers.

Whereas we the Inhabitants of Lancaster Northumberland, Guildhall & Stratford are fully sensible of the Danger of being attacked by the Canadians which are the Wors^t of Enemys & although some of our neighbours have Quit the ground yet we the Subscribers Do Jointly & severly promis & ingage to Stand our ground providing the Hon^{bl} Counsell sees Fitt to grant our request That is this, that you will pleasure us your petitioners so far as to apoint Mr Jereⁿ Ames of Northumberland our friend and Neighbor, Commander of our fort which with a great Deal of fetage we have almost acomplished and Likewise for him the s^d Ames to have orders to inlist as many men as the Hon^r Cort in their Wisdom will see fit, we do ingage to inlist our selves and obey his orders as long as he is stationed in the uper Coos and Commander of the fort.

Northumberland July 6th 1776.

Thomas Blogget
Sam^l Nash
Emmens Stockwell
Ward Bailey
James Blake
Nathan Caswell
Archippas Blogget
Josiah Blogget
Dies Sawyer
Eliezer Rosbrook

David Larned
Samuel Page
Abner Osgood
Abel Larned
John Trickey
James Curtiss
Abijah Larned
Moses Quinby
Joseph Barlow
Abner Barlow

LANDAFF.

[Landaff was first granted, Jan. 3, 1764, to James Avery and others; but failed for not fulfilling the conditions. It was then granted to the Trustees of Dartmouth College, 1774; but subsequently to the Revolu-

tion, the first grantees renewed their claim, in law, and the grant was restored to them. ED.]

Petition of Trustees of Dartmouth College.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General, Governor, and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire &c and to the Honorable his Majestys council in said Province.

The Petition of the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, in said Province, Humbly Sheweth

That there are ten Families settled & settling in the Township of Landaff in the county of Grafton and Province aforesaid, and a number of others are expected very soon to enter and settle there. That the Inhabitants have already suffered many disadvantages for want of an Incorporation of the same and must soon suffer many more and greater Inconveniences unless an act of Incorporation of said Township be soon obtained.

We therefore earnestly request your Excellency and Honors to take the matter into your wise and Judicious Consideration and that you will please to incorporate said Township of Landaff. Granting to the Inhabitants of the same all such powers and privileges as are usual and Customary to be granted to Incorporations of Townships, and any other privileges and advantages as your Excellency and Honors in your great Wisdom shall Judge Expedient for the benefit of the same under its peculiar situation and relation to this College. And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

By order of the Trustees,

BEZA WOODWARD, Clerk.

Dartmouth College Aug. 26th 1774.

Names of Persons settling & Settled as heads of Families in Landaff.

Nathaniel Hovey	George Mineham
Elisha Cleveland	Alpheus Hill
Joseph Warner	Joseph Cleveland
James Hovey	John Phillips
John Bedel	David Wedward

Minutes of Trustees of Dartmouth College.

At an Annual Meeting of the Trustees of Dartmouth College held at said College Aug. 25th 1774, Present.

The Reverend Eleazer Wheelock D. D. President.

The Honorable George Jaffrey, Esq.

The Honorable Peter Gilman Esq.

The Reverend Benj^r Pomeroy D. D.

The Honorable John Phillips Esq.

Bezaleel Woodward Esq^r

The Reverend Eden Burroughs

John Sherburne Esq^r

Elisha Paine Esq^r

Voted, and resolved, To present a petition to his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor of this Province and to the Honorable his Majestys Council for an Incorporation of the Inhabitants of the Township of Landaff and that the Clerk of this Board be directed to draw and sign the same.

A true Copy of Record.

Attest

Beza Woodward, Clerk.

LEMPSTER.

[This town was granted by charter January 5, 1767. Settlements were made about 1770, by immigrants from Connecticut. ED.]

Petition of Capt. Joseph Spencer for an extension of the charter.

Province of	}	To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governour & Com- mander in Chief in and over his Majestys Prov. of New Hampshire aforesaid and Vice Admiral of the same, In Council.
New Hampshire		

The petition of Joseph Spencer Esq^r in behalf of the Major part of the Grantees and proprietors of the township of Lempster in the said province, Humbly shews,

That the Charter of the said Township of Lempster was granted on the 5th January 1767 on Certain Terms of Culture &c Expressed to be performed within 5 years from the date of the Grant, and your petitioner begs leave to represent, That as there are many difficulties which unavoidably attend the settlement of a new plantation Especially one that is at a remote distance from any Inhabitants many of the Petitioners have abundantly Experienced the discouragements arising therefrom, particularly in being obliged to cut Roads thro' the woods to their respective Lots at their own Expence, which has principally retarded their compliance with the duties of the Grant; it has been peculiarly hard upon them as sundry of the Original Grantees have not to this day contributed in the least degree towards the settlement thereof, whereby those who have used their endeavours tho' not to full effect are liable to share the Fate of the (totally) delinquent, notwithstanding which inconveniences there are Eight Families actually resident on the premises, and Eight more that have improv'd so as to be able to go on in the spring besides other Improvements, which affords a fair prospect to settle the same without delay, but as the

Charter is so near expiring Your Pet^r are thence induced to request that your Excell^t & honours will be pleased to lengthen out the said Charter for the Term of Four years. In which time the petitioners hereby promise & Engage to fulfill the Conditions required by their said Grant. and to Exclude, if your Excell^t & honours think proper those Grantees who have been entirely negligent as aforesaid, whose Names are as follows, Viz^t Alexander Steward, Alex^r Steward Jr. Daniel Gates Nathan Gates. Dudley Woodbridge, Oliver Woodbridge. John Steward & John Steward Jr And grant them to such of his Majestys Subjects as are willing to settle their respective Rights or shares in the said Township or otherwise as to your Excell^t and honors shall seem just and right.

And your Petition^r as in duty bound will ever pray.

JOSEPH SPENCER.

Portsm^o 28th Decemb. 1771.

Names to take the forfeited Rights in Lempster

Bozenger Salter
John Southmayd
James Dickison
Nathaniel Sparrow

Richard Sparrow
James Sparrow
Peter Spencer

Leave one a blank Exclusive of above

{ These are right,
{ J^r WENTWORTH.

LITCHFIELD.

[This town was early granted by Massachusetts as a plantation to William Brenton, and for a long period called *Brenton's Farm*. It was afterwards included in the Old Dunstable Grant, and belonged to that town until 1734, when it was set off and made a distinct Township, as appears from the following Petition. It remained under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts until 1741, when the establishment of the line between that Province and New Hampshire separated it from that Government. It was incorporated under the administration of Gov. Benning Wentworth, 5 June, 1749. JOHN FARMER.]

Petition of the Inhabitants of Litchfield for a township.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General, Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England and To the Honorable his Majestys Council for said Province.

The petition of the Inhabitants of that Tract of Land lying and being in the Province of New Hampshire by the late settlement of the Boundary between the said Province and the Province of the Massachusetts Bay by his Majesty in Council, Called and known by the Name of Litchfield most humbly

